BAKI

THE GRAPPLER

KEISUKE ITAGAKI

20

BAKI

THE GRAPPLER

KEISUKE ITAGAKI

PERFECT EDITION

20

BAKI

THE GRAPPLER

CONTENTS

#302	Monster Showdown 6	005
#303	Monster Showdown 7	025
#304	Monster Showdown 8	045
#305	Past Everything...!!	065
#306	A Real Seiken!!	085
#307	Aiki!!!	111
#308	Orochi Flies!!	131
#309	Perfect	151
#310	Kagome Kagome	171
#311	I Just Can't Picture It, Sir	191
#312	Don't Look Down On Me!!	211
#313	Doppo vs. Shibukawa Concludes!!	231
#314	Experience in Age	251
#315	Door!!	271
#316	The Evil Demon Stirs	291
#317	Blood!!	311

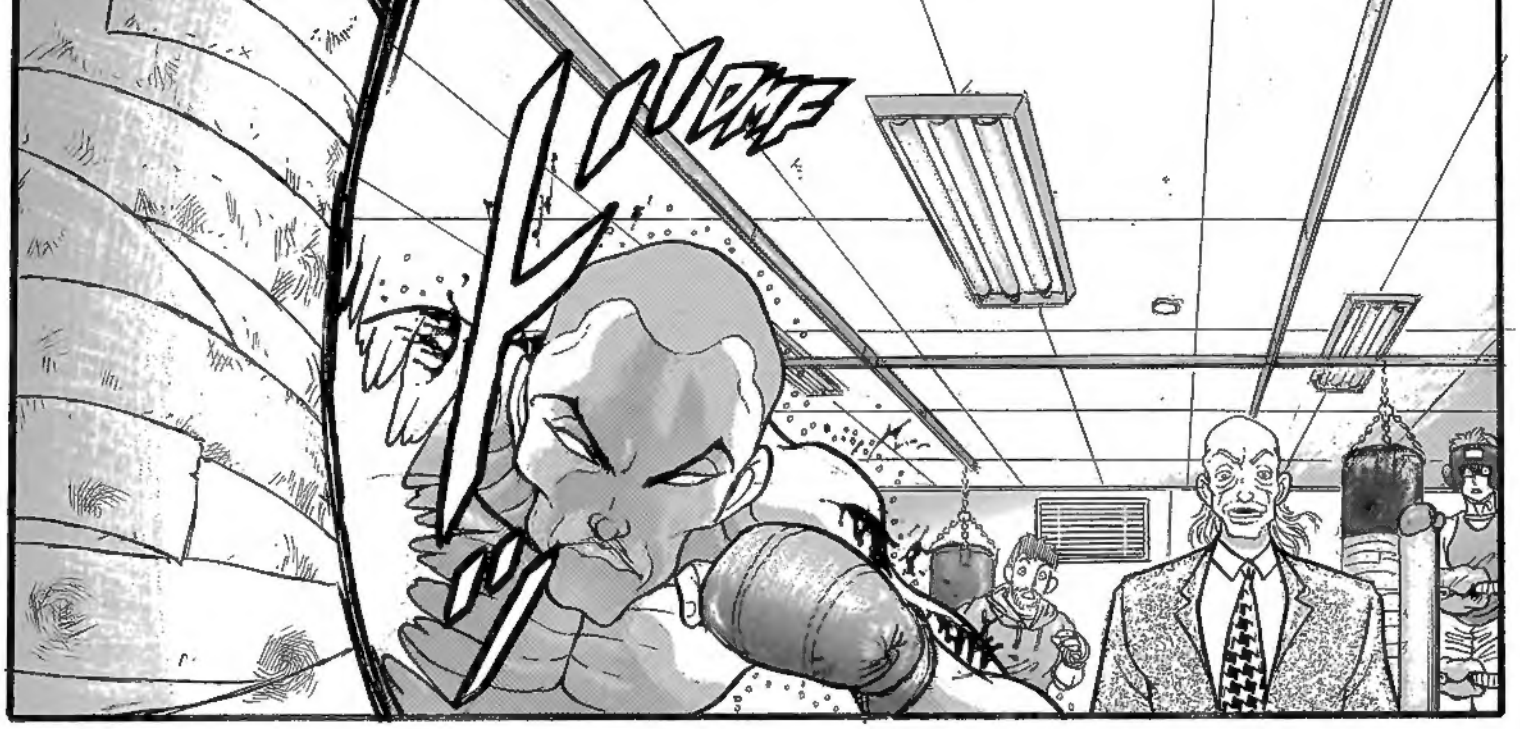
#302 Monster Showdown 6

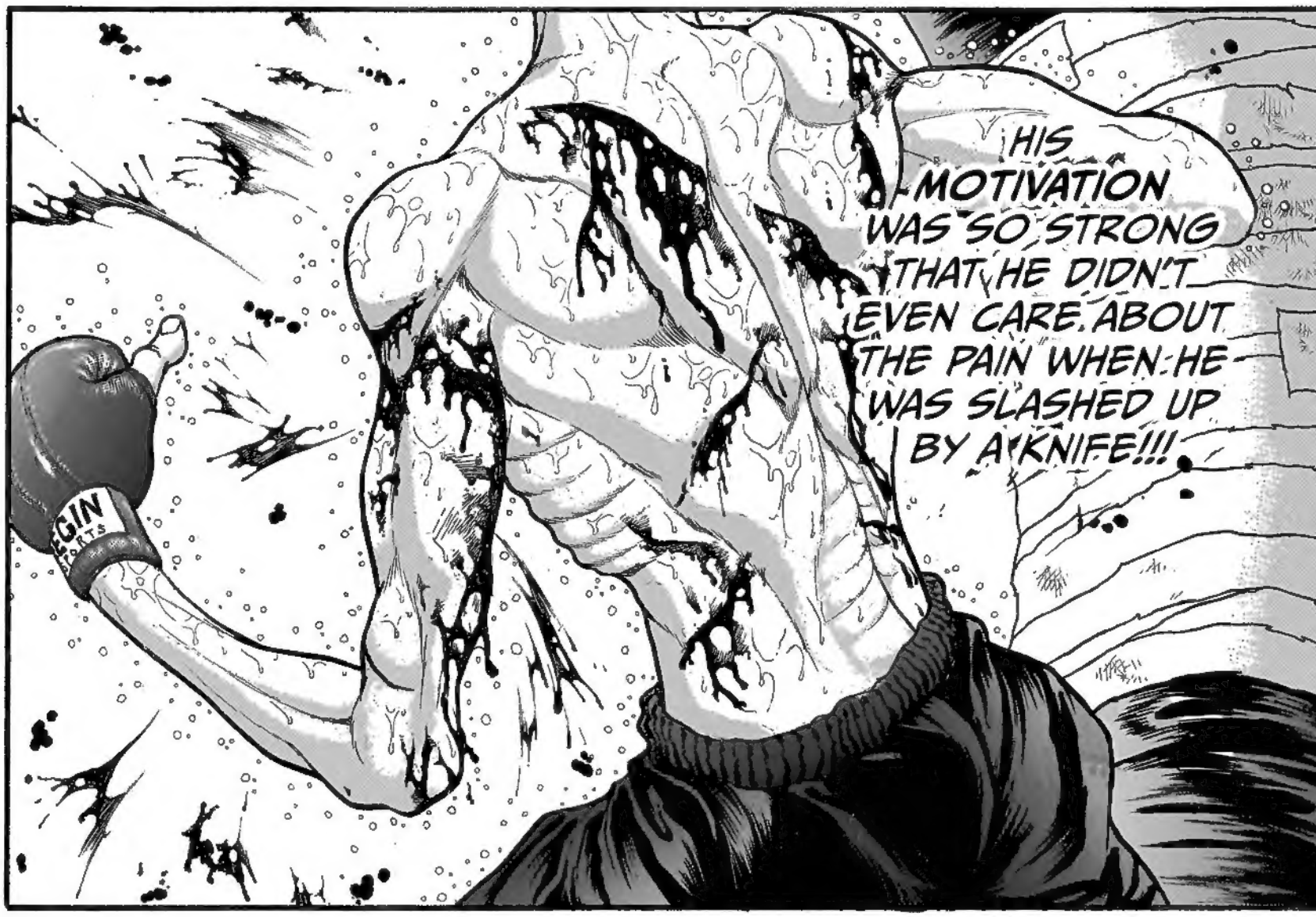
PLEASE UTILIZE ME!

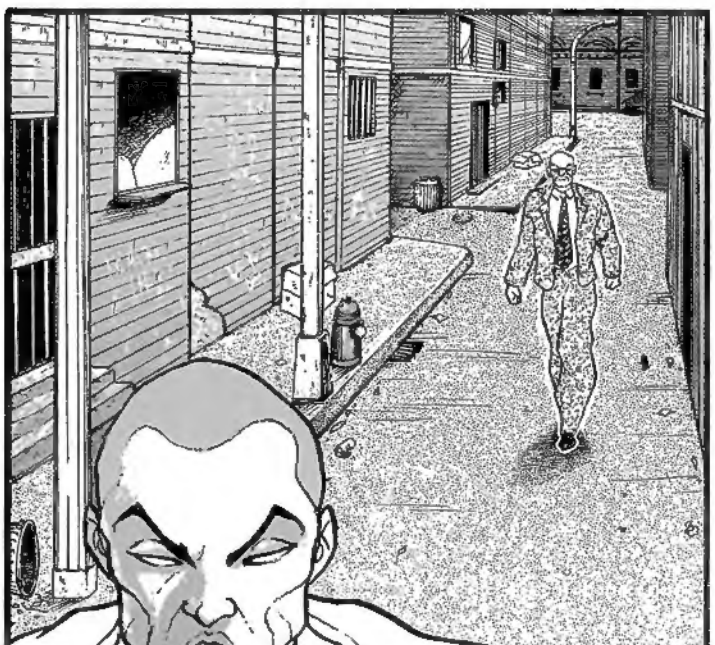
I KNOW I CAN HELP YOU!

I PLEADED WITH HIM, BUT HIS RESPONSE?

BITING SILENCE...


DMF


HIS MOTIVATION WAS SO STRONG THAT HE DIDN'T EVEN CARE ABOUT THE PAIN WHEN HE WAS SLASHED UP BY A KNIFE!!!

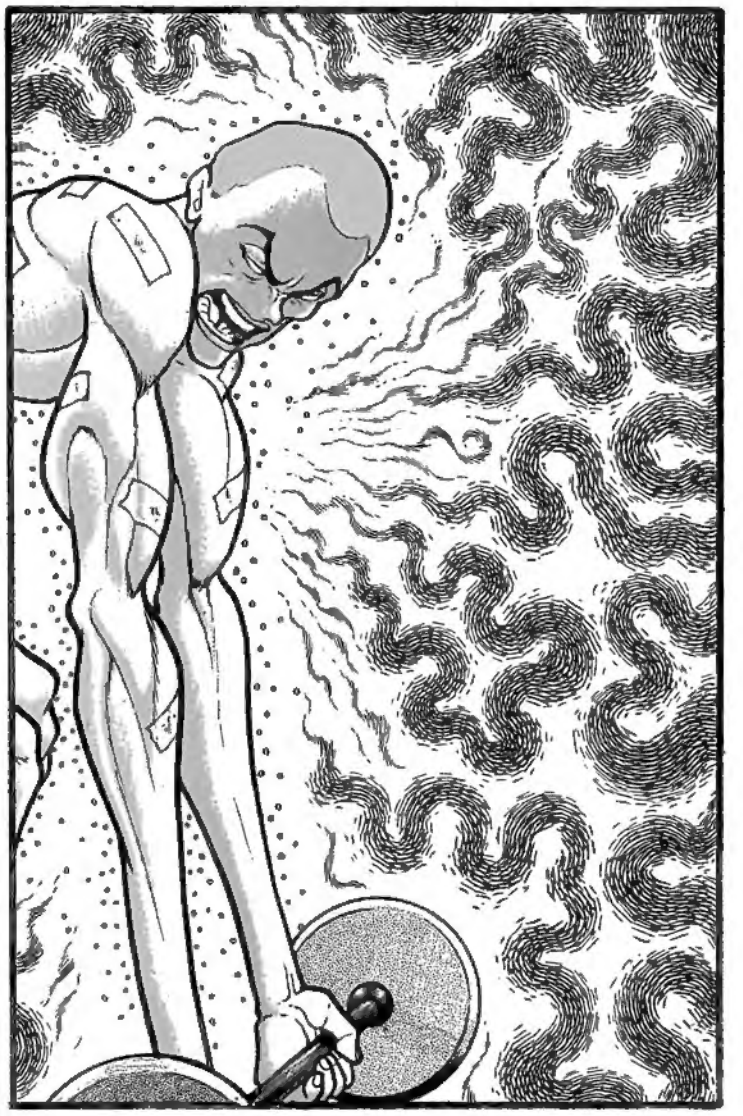


IT MADE MY HEART GO AFLUTTER.

...WAS FAR-FROM NORMAL.

AS EXPECTED, JACK'S PRIVATE LIFE...!

HE TRAINED THOROUGHLY TO OVERCOME HIS WEAKNESSES...



THAT ITSELF WASN'T THE UNUSUAL PART!

...BUT THAT WASN'T THE UNUSUAL PART.

IT WAS THE CLEARLY MISGUIDED TRAINING METHODS HE USED!

KNK

...YET HE STILL DIDN'T STOP.

HIS MUSCLES MUST'VE BEEN SCREAMING IN AGONY AND HE MUST'VE EXPERIENCED INTENSE PAIN...

EVEN WHEN HE DID MORE REPS THAN HE SHOULD HAVE, HE STILL SHOWED NO SIGNS OF WANTING TO STOP.

IT WAS ONLY THEN THAT HE STOPPED.

EVENTUALLY, HE LOST CONTROL OF HIS OVERWORKED MUSCLES AND HE COULD NO LONGER HOLD UP THE BARBELLS...

IN THE END, HIS MUSCLES SHRIVELED UP.

OVERWORKING... TRAINING LIKE THAT IS CLEARLY DETRIMENTAL FROM AN EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY PERSPECTIVE.

...BUT IF YOU'VE SEEN IT ONCE, THEN YOU'VE SEEN IT ALL.

JACK ALSO WENT TO SEVERAL OTHER TRAINING GYMS...

WITH HIS UTTERLY EMACIATED BODY, THERE WAS NO WAY HE'D BE ABLE TO ACHIEVE HIS DESIRED RESULTS...

NO MATTER WHERE HE WENT, HIS TRAINING METHODS NEVER CHANGED.

A MAN WHO DID THE WORLD'S MOST BRUTAL TRAINING, ONLY TO BECOME THE WORLD'S WEAKEST MAN.

THAT WAS MY HONEST IMPRESSION OF HIM.

I SEE.

AT THIS RATE, YOU WILL DIE WITHIN SIX MONTHS!

I'M NOT LYING.

HOWEVER, DYING NOW WOULD BE THROWING OUT THE BABY WITH THE BATHWATER.

I DON'T CARE WHO OR WHAT YOU'RE FIGHTING AGAINST.

I WANT TO WIN...

I NEED TO TRAIN HARD TO DEFEAT THAT MAN.

UNCONVEN-TIONAL AND INSANELY DIFFICULT TRAINING...

THESE TRIFLING SCIENTIFIC METHODS YOU'VE DEVISED WILL **NEVER** ALLOW ME TO CATCH UP!

BUT JACK...

...WHAT ABOUT YOUR BODY?! IT'S CLEARLY GETTING WEAKER!

IF I WERE SIMPLY TRYING TO GET TO THAT MAN'S LEVEL, THEN YOUR TRAINING MIGHT SUFFICE.

BUT IF I WANT TO **SURPASS** HIM, THEN MY CURRENT METHOD IS THE **ONLY** WAY.

...THEN I GUESS THAT MEANS I WASN'T MAN ENOUGH.

IF YOU'RE SAYING THAT MY BODY WON'T HOLD OUT AND I'LL DIE IN SIX MONTHS...

JACK.

THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, RIGHT?

YOU WANT TO WIN AT ANY COST.

EVEN IF IT MEANS DEATH ?!!!

...IT MEANS GOING THROUGH HELL!!!

YOU WANT VICTORY, EVEN IF..

THEN YOU DON'T HAVE TO CHANGE YOUR TRAINING AT ALL...

...AS LONG AS YOU'RE BRAVE ENOUGH TO FOLLOW MY ORDERS, THAT IS.

IT COULD BE **POISONOUS,** THOUGH.

CARE TO TAKE A SHOT OF THIS...?

ゴポ…
GLUG
STICK OUT YOUR ARM.

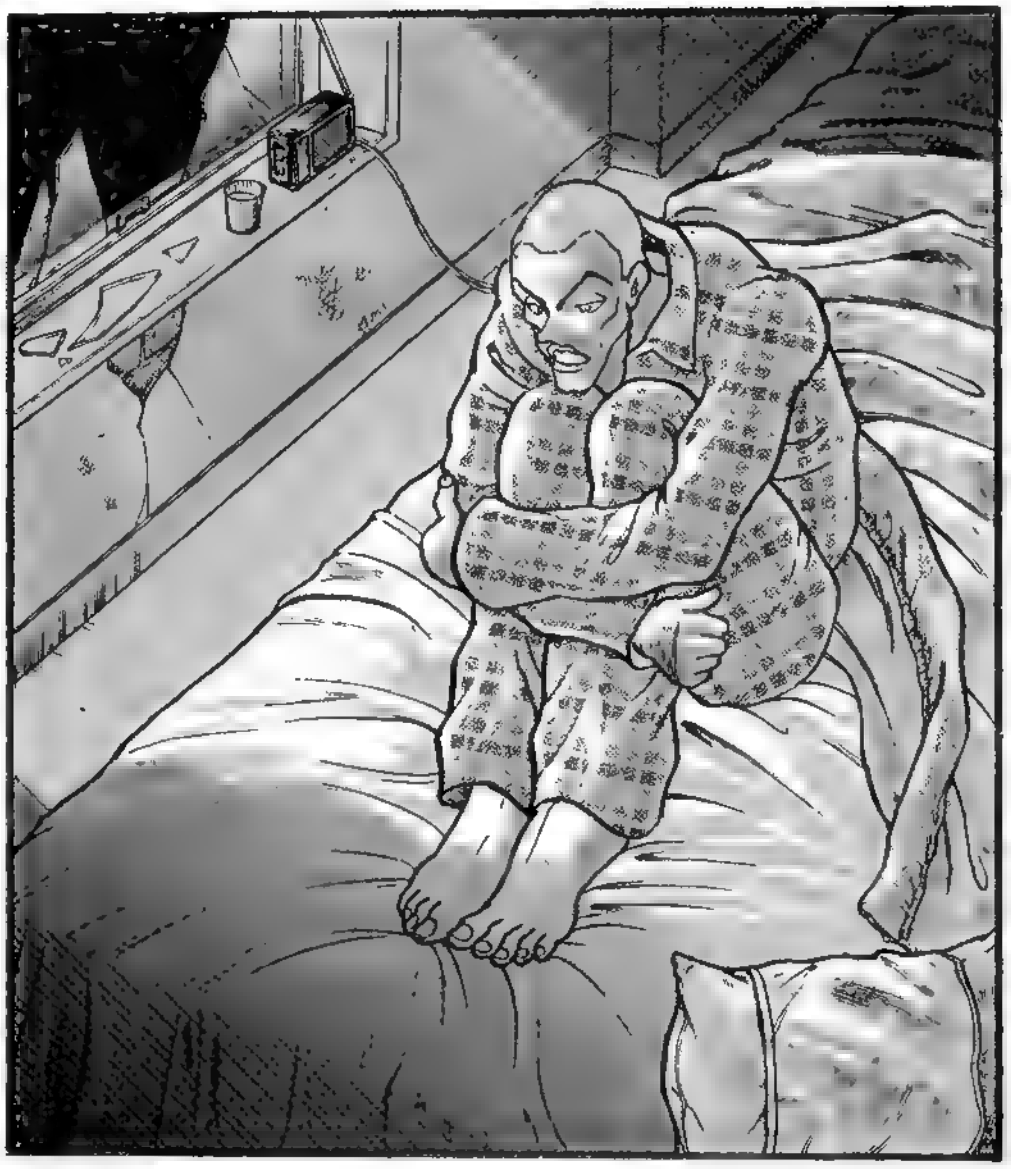
CHUG CHUG

SWALLOW THESE.

YOUR ARM AGAIN...

SEE ME IN A WEEK.

JACK...



THESE ARE THE RESULTS I EXPECTED.
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS.

ONE WEEK LATER...
NIKE

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!
NOW YOU CAN BECOME THE STRONGEST ON EARTH!!!

#303 Monster Showdown 7

IT'S ONLY BEEN ONE WEEK!!!

...HAVE BEEN REBORN INTO MASSIVE TRUNKS AS BIG AS THERMOSES ...!!!

THOSE SKINNY ARMS THAT RESEMBLED WITHERED BRANCHES...

THAT CHEST THAT WAS AS THIN AS THE DOOR OF MY HOUSE...

...HE ENCASED IT IN RAW, COMPRESSED RUBBER.

...IS NOW SO DENSE, AS THOUGH...

...NOW HAVE THE POWER OF A THOROUGHBRED, THE AGILITY OF A SEROW...

...AND ARE AS THICK AS A SEMI-TRUCK'S MUFFLER.

THOSE LEGS THAT WERE AS SHAKY AS A GRASSHOPPER...

YOUR GOALS DON'T MATTER TO ME AT ALL.

THAT MUCH IS CERTAIN.

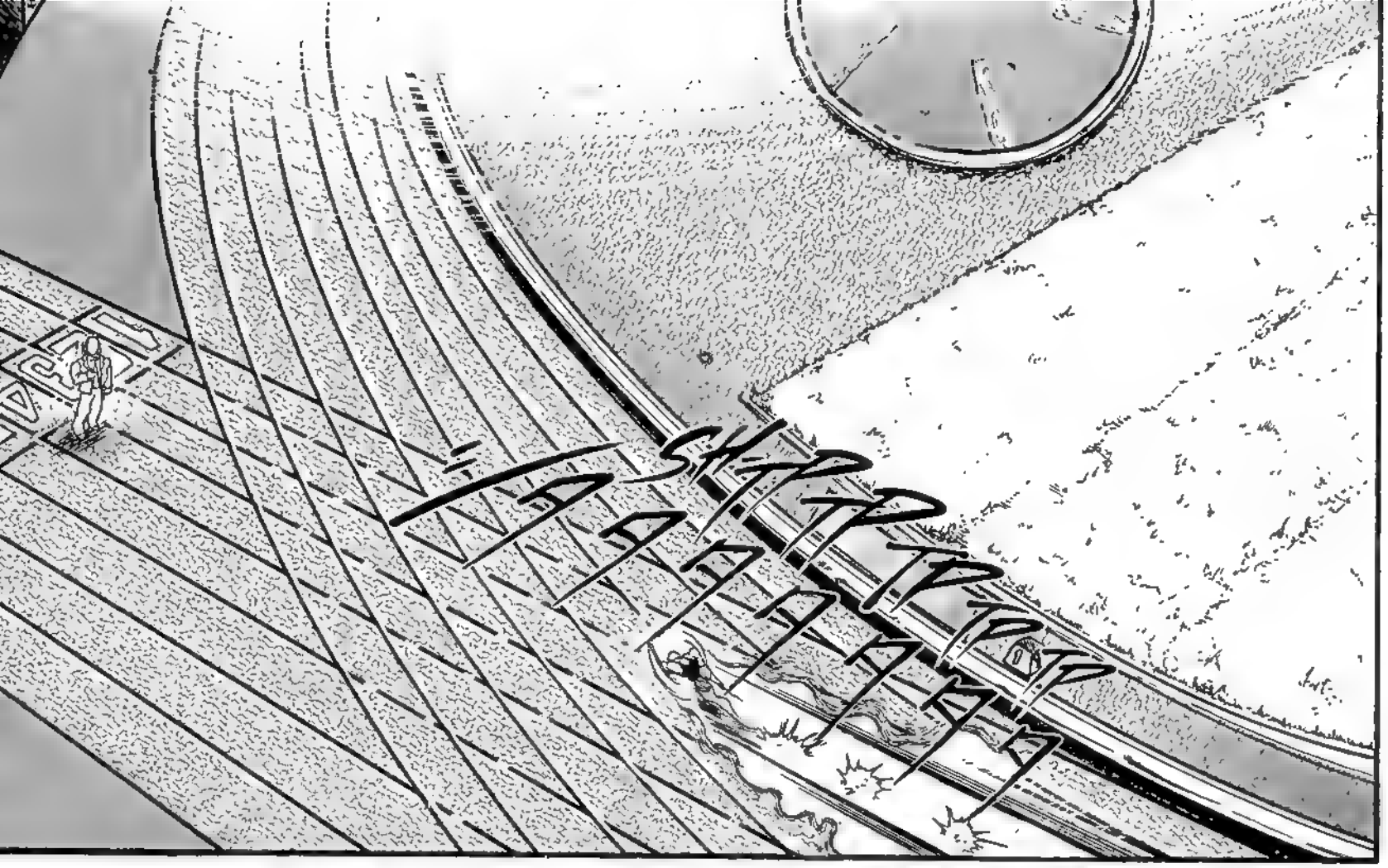
BUT IT'S CLEAR NOW THAT THE REALIZATION OF BOTH OF OUR DREAMS ARE INTERTWINED.

YOU'VE RECEIVED A JUST EVALUATION FROM GOD.

YOUR BODY HAS RESPONDED WITH THE DEFINITE ANSWER TO EVERYTHING YOU'VE DONE UP UNTIL NOW.

I NEED TO TEST THIS BODY...!

I'D LIKE TO HEAR YOUR THOUGHTS.


HASHAPP
HASHAPP

SHAPP
SHAPP
SHAPP
SHAPP

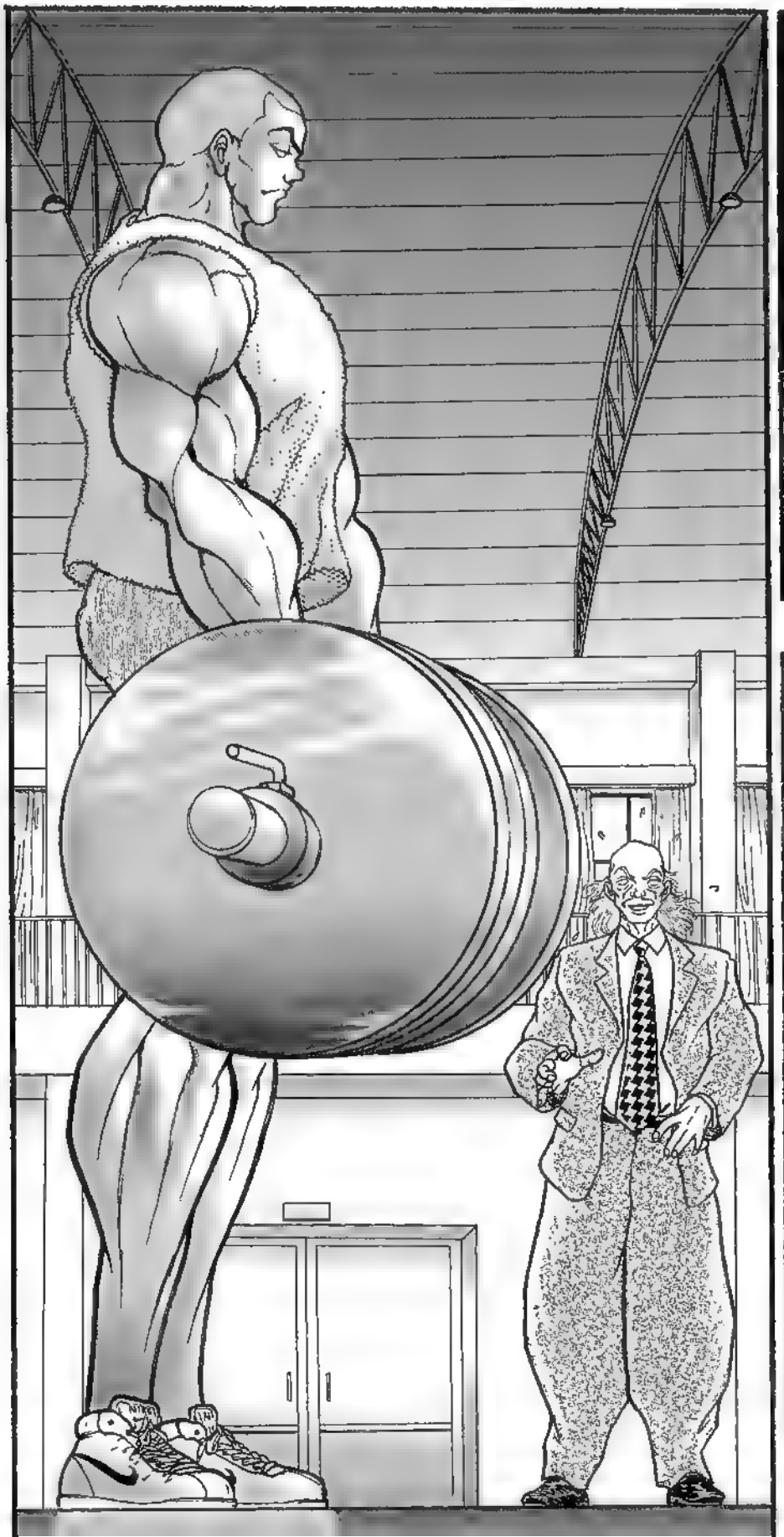
WHOOM

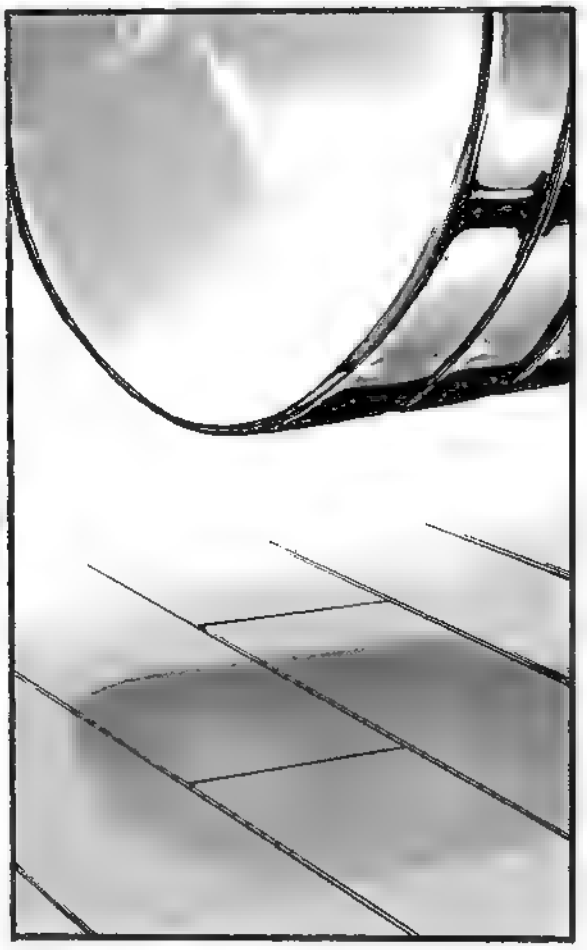
WELL DONE...

RECALL
START STOP
LAP/SPLIT RESET
MODE
30 LAP/SPLIT MEMORY
SELECT
SET
LAP
SPLIT
STOP
RECALL
STOP-W.
TIME
SEIKO
WATER RESISTANT
3 BAR

HOW'S IT FEEL TO BE FACING A WORLD RECORD?

WELL, JACK?

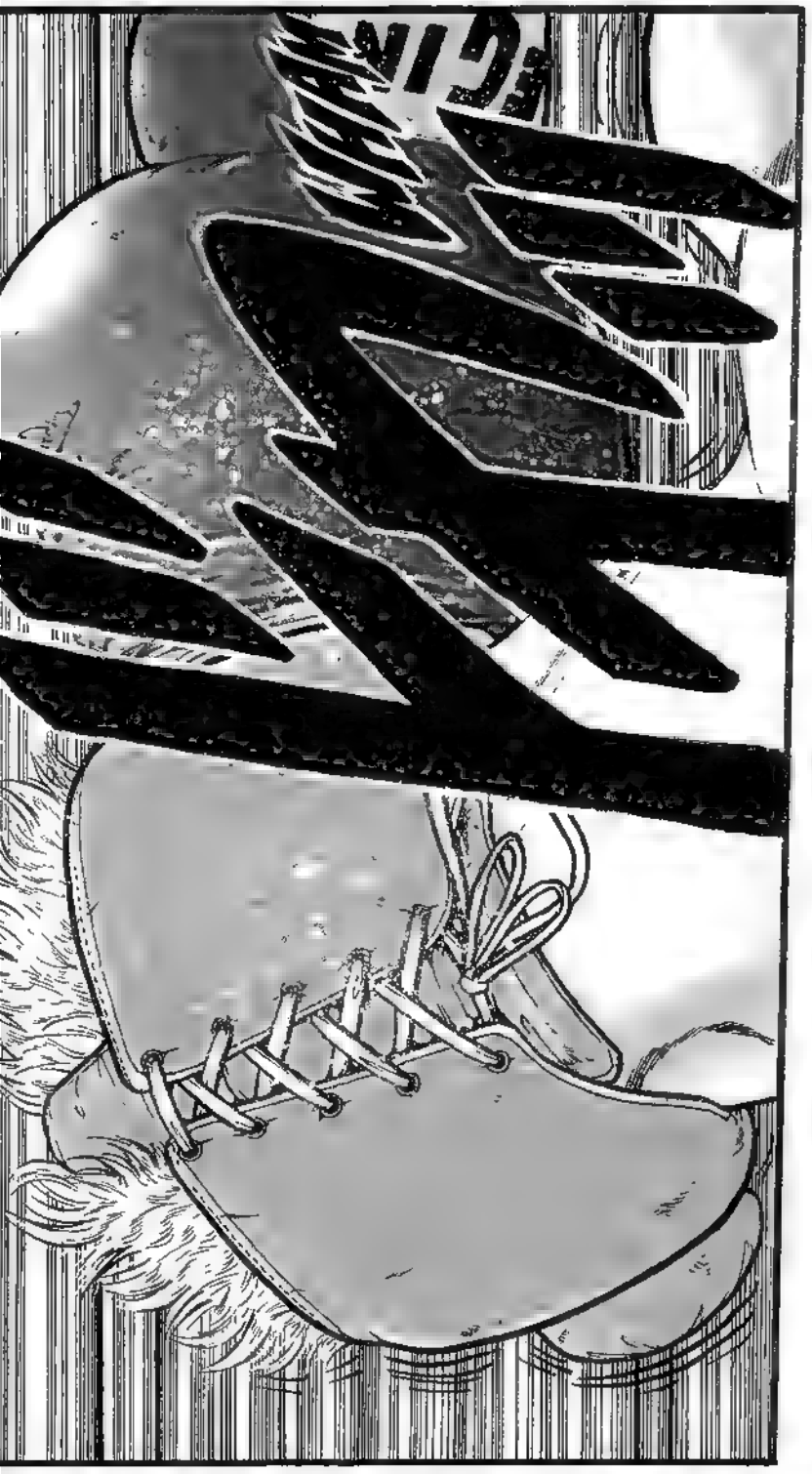




I DON'T CARE ABOUT RECORDS OR GOLD MEDALS.

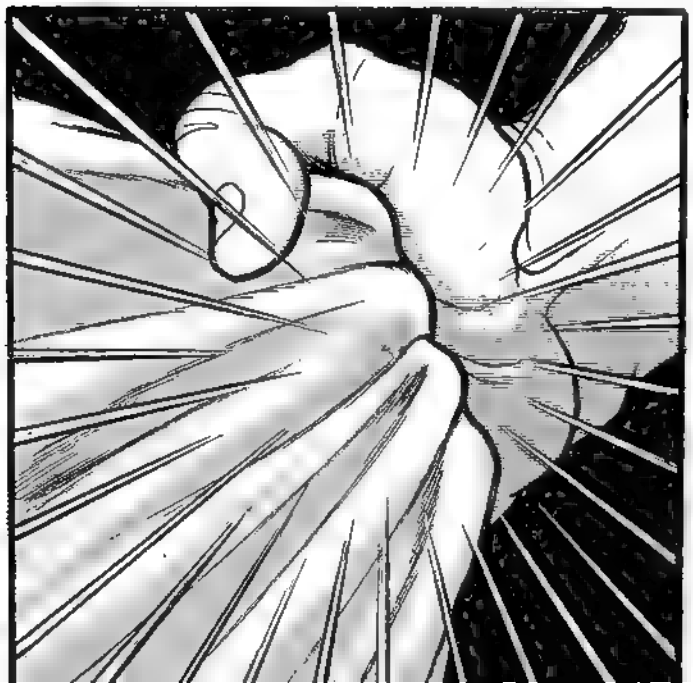
JOHN.

ARE YOU TRYING TO INSULT A FIGHTER?

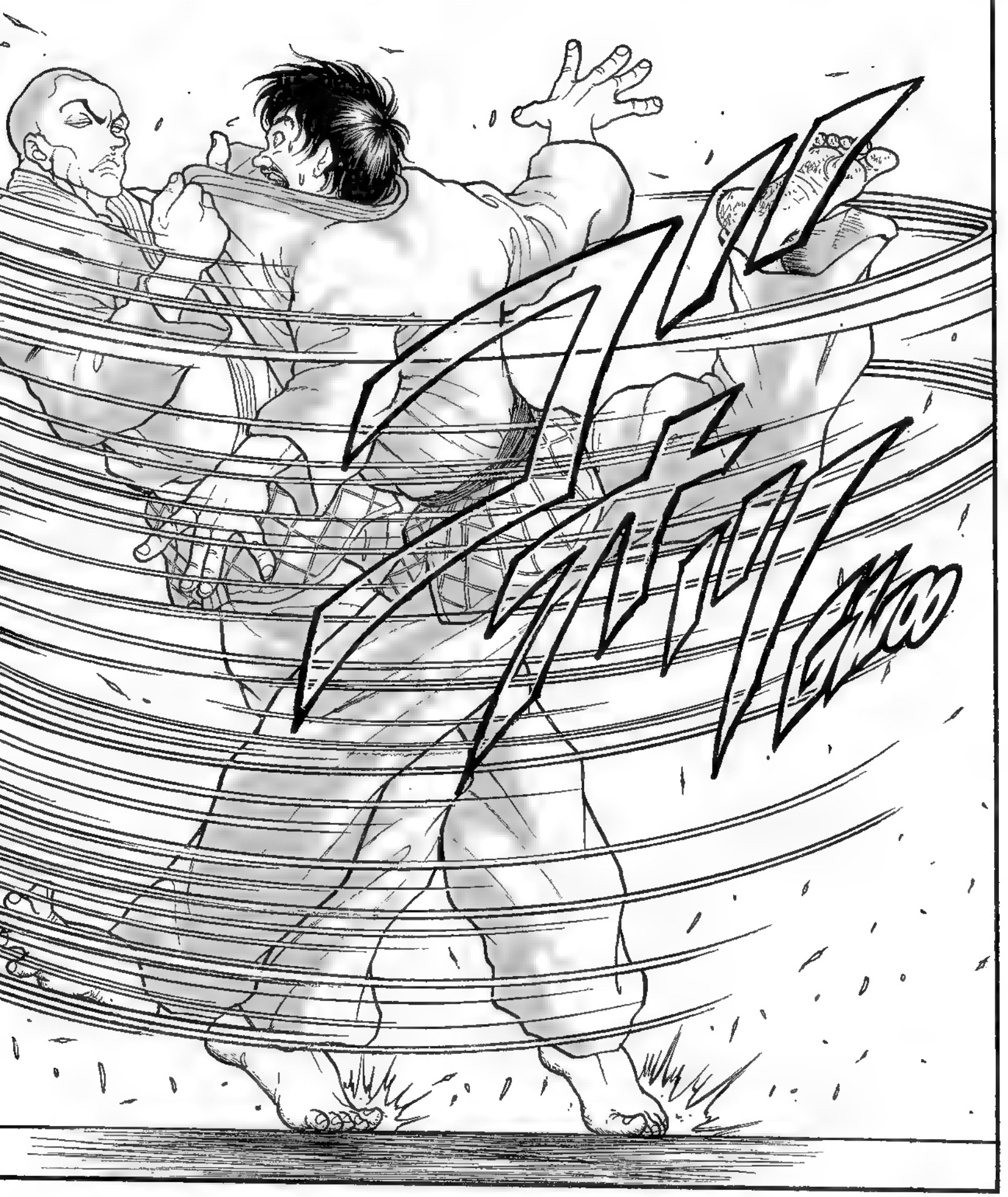


KA-WHAM
NEXT...
YOU HEARD HIM, TOM...
HE ISN'T HUMAN ...!!!

WHOOSH



I CAN'T TELL WHAT HE'S GOING TO DO !!!


FLING

I'M THROUGH WITH THIS PLACE.

WHAM

A FEW WEEKS PASSED...

I NEED MORE, JOHN.

JACK...

I NEED A BODY THAT CAN HANDLE EVEN HARDER TRAINING!

HARD TRAINING AND DOPING WERE HIS BREAD AND BUTTER.

AND THE BALANCE OF THOSE TWO THINGS WERE ALREADY REACHING CRITICAL MASS.

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN PREPARED TO TRADE MY HEALTH FOR A BODY WITH REAL STRENGTH !!!

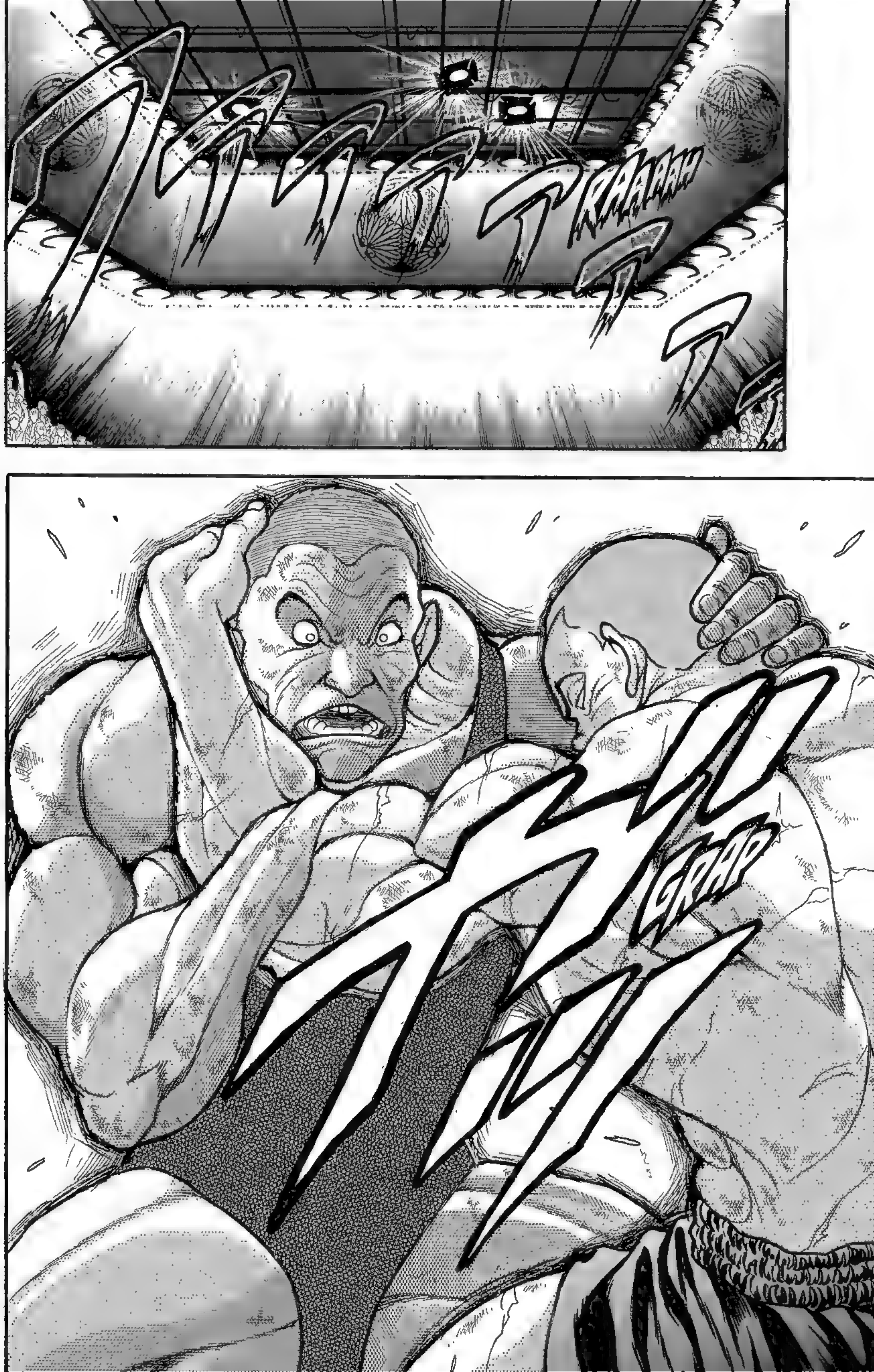
I'VE NEVER CARED ABOUT LIVING A LONG LIFE!

JACK.

SO YOU DON'T CARE IF YOU GET TURNED INTO FRANKENSTEIN'S MONSTER?!

WELL, THAT'S ALL I COULD EVER DREAM OF.

O GOD...


RAAAAH
GRAP

#304 Monster Showdown 8

玄武
J-JACK'S FACE, IT'S...!

KOOSH

SKRSH

GALLEN'S ATTEMPT AT A THROW GETS REVERSED !!!

OH MY !!!

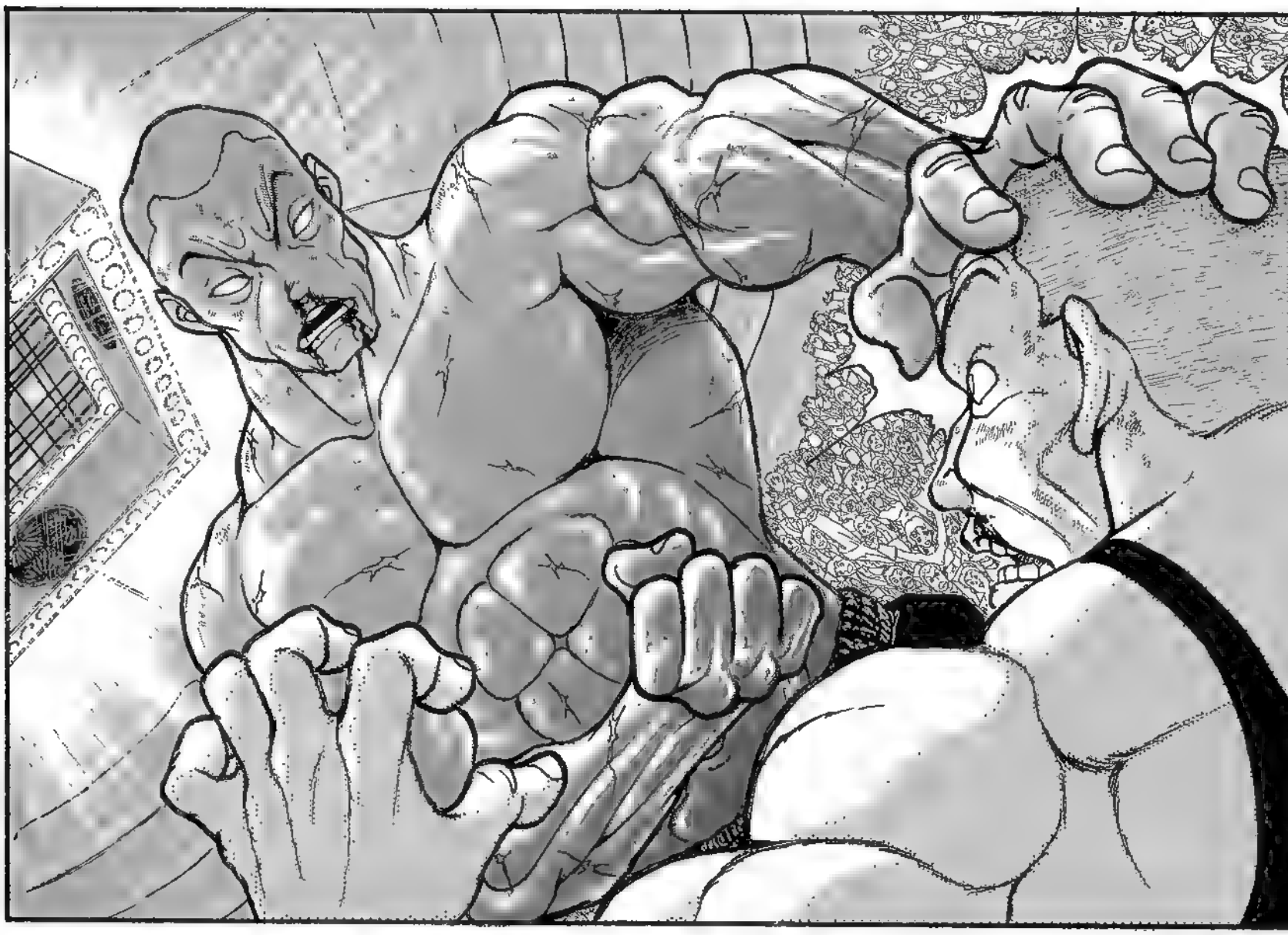
AAAAND AWAAAAY HE GOOOES!

THAT 169-KILO FRAME IS FLYING PARALLEL TO THE GROUND!!!

KRAK

HE'S BEEN SPIKED THROUGH THE THICK FENCE AND INTO THE CROWD!!!

ぬおおおおお
NWoooo



KRA-KOW

UP, UP AND AWAY HE GOES YET AGAIN!!!

HOLY CRAP!

EEEK!

白虎

...BUT GET A LOOK AT JACK HAMMER'S FACE!

A-AND NOT ONLY THAT...

IS A MERE SHIFT IN EMOTIONS LIKE ANGER OR SADNESS...

...ENOUGH TO CAUSE AN EXPRESSION LIKE THAT TO COME OUT?!

TO MY EYES, IT ALMOST LOOKS INHUMAN...

WOOOOO
WOOOOO
FOR THE MOTHER-LAND ...
FOR THE MOTHER-LAND...

FOR MOTHER RUSSIA !!!

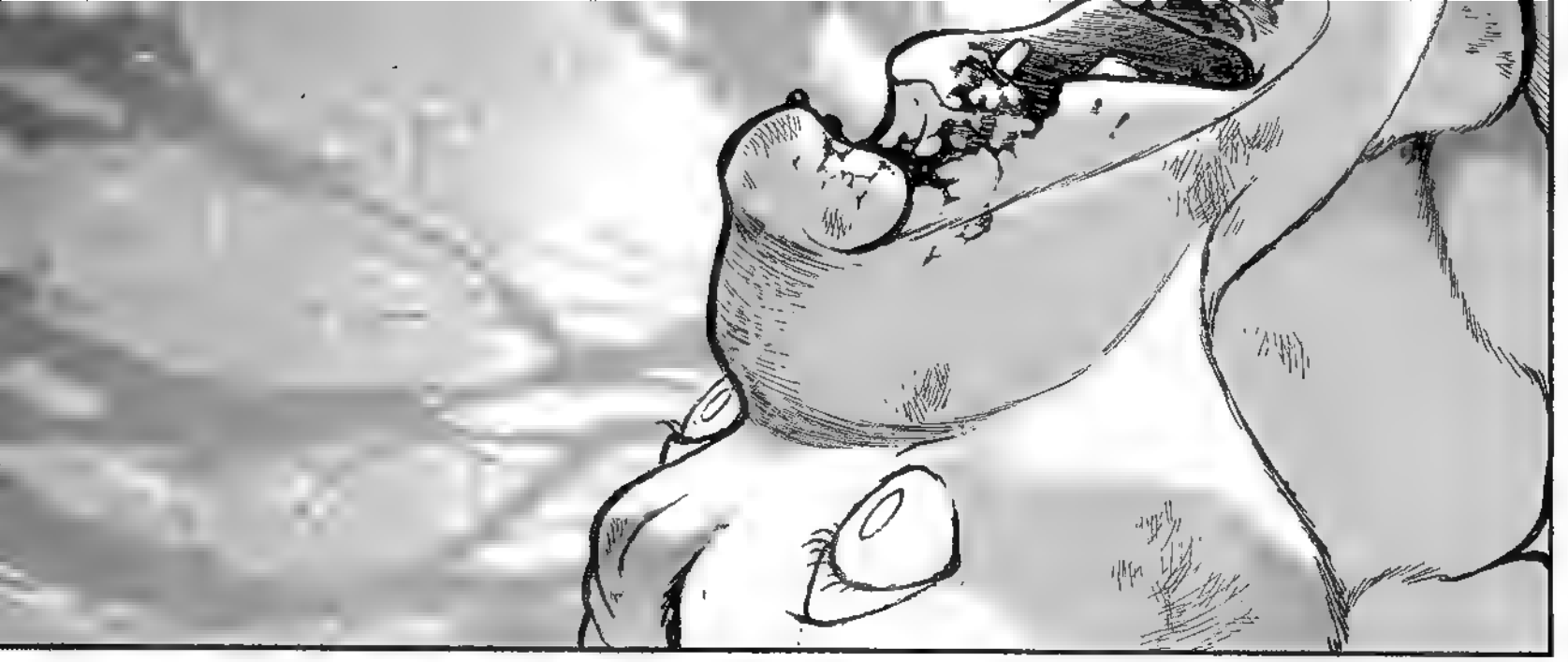
SHNK

HE'S GOING FOR HIS *HEART.*

HE LANDED A NUKITE UNDER THE RIBCAGE!

SHIP

BRK BRK BRAK

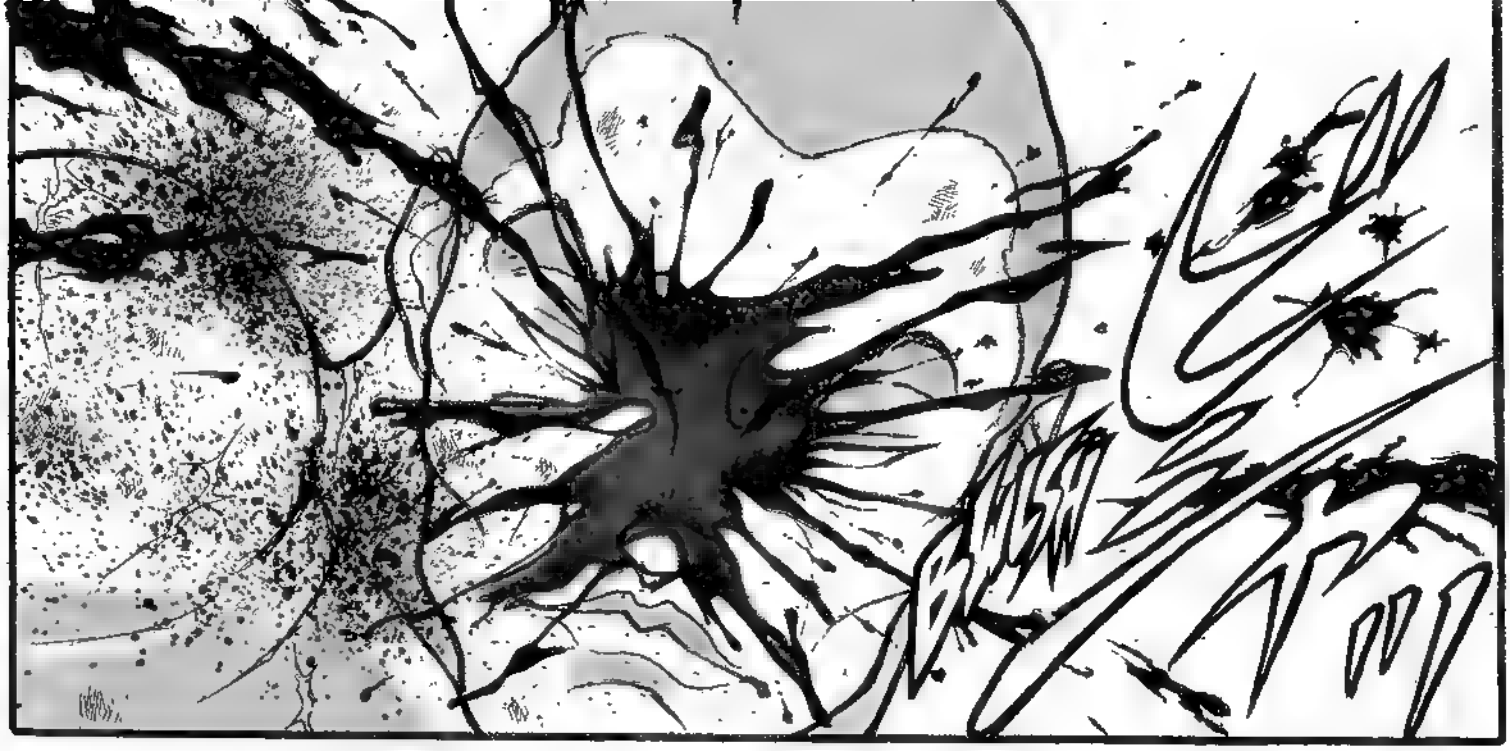


HO...
RO...
SHO....

NO! THE MATCH IS OVER!

GRAB

虎
玄武


BLISH

AND THAT'S THE END OF THE FIGHT!!!

#305 Past Everything...!!

C'MON, DOC!!!

CALL IN THE DOCTOR !!!

MEDIC!

青

赤

THE MONSTER SHOWDOWN HAS FINALLY COME TO AN END!!!

...JACK HAMMER!!!

THE VICTORY GOES TO THE MAN FROM CANADA...

THAT NUKITE DROVE THOSE BROKEN RIBS RIGHT INTO HIS HEART.

THAT CANADIAN PLAYS DIRTY.

EEE-EEEK!

JACK.

WHOA! HE'S COMING THIS WAY!

JACK HAMMER CONFIRMS HE IS A TERRIFYING OPPONENT!

JACK...

BWOOOO

JACK!

...FIGHTING TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT WITH THE RIVALS YOU RELENTLESSLY SOUGHT FOR SO LONG.

I ASSUME YOU'RE IN THE FARAWAY LAND OF TOKYO...

YES, THE VERY PLACE YOU VISITED A MERE MONTH AGO.

I'M FAR AWAY IN THE NORTH AT THE MOMENT.

GWOO

THIS PLACE, WHERE MY DREAMS OF CREATING A SUPER HUMAN WERE BORN.

...AND THAT'S WHEN I SAW IT.

...I CAME TO THIS LAND...

TEN YEARS AGO, TO HARVEST SEAL HORMONES...

SOMEONE OVERWHELMING A ONE-TON BEAST OF PREY IN A DISPLAY OF PURE ULTRA-VIOLENCE !!!

THAT'S WHEN MY DREAM WAS BORN!

USING CUTTING-EDGE SCIENCE, I COULD MAKE THIS MAN!!!

I WOULD MAKE THAT MAN MYSELF!

Woooo

COUNTLESS TESTS...

...RESULTED IN COUNTLESS FAILURES IN AN ENDLESS CYCLE.

...MY GREATEST COLLABORATOR.

...I FINALLY CAME ACROSS YOU, JACK...

ATOP THE HEAPS AND HEAPS OF CORPSES...

YOU GAVE ME ALL I COULD EVER ASK FOR.

...AFTER ANOTHER.

...IN ONE DOPING SESSION...

...ARROGANTLY AND REPEATEDLY ENGAGING...

BREAKING UNOFFICIAL WORLD RECORDS DAY IN, DAY OUT!

HOWEVER, OUR GOAL WASN'T SOMETHING AS TRIFLING AS WINNING GOLD MEDALS.

MY HEART WAS AFLUTTER!

THE HONEYMOON PERIOD WAS SHORT.

...AND STARTED YOUR SOLO SPRINT PAST MY DREAMS.

BEFORE I KNEW IT, YOU HAD CAST TOMORROW FROM YOUR MIND...

A SPRINT THAT TURNED INTO A RAMPAGE...

A RAMPAGE THAT SAW YOU CAST DREAMS ASIDE...

...AND TREAD INTO GOD'S— NO...

...SURPASS THE REALM OF MERE MEN IN RECORD TIME...

YES, LIKE A KAMIKAZE— A DIVINE WIND!

...TREAD INTO THE DEVIL'S TERRITORY.

YOUR VICTORIES WILL ADD UP, GRADUALLY UNLOCKING YOUR LATENT POTENTIAL.

LIKE A DEMONIC FORCE, YOU'LL CONTINUE TO WIN IN TOKYO.

JUST AS YOU DID HERE, A MONTH AGO!

AND YOUR MAX SHOULD BE FULLY UNSEALED IN THE FINAL MATCH!

...CAN I FIGHT WITH GOD.

NO LONGER...

...THE FINAL TEST RESULTS YOU PRODUCED, I FACE MY FINAL HOUR.

NOW, IN THE FACE OF...

JACK.

-L!-BANG

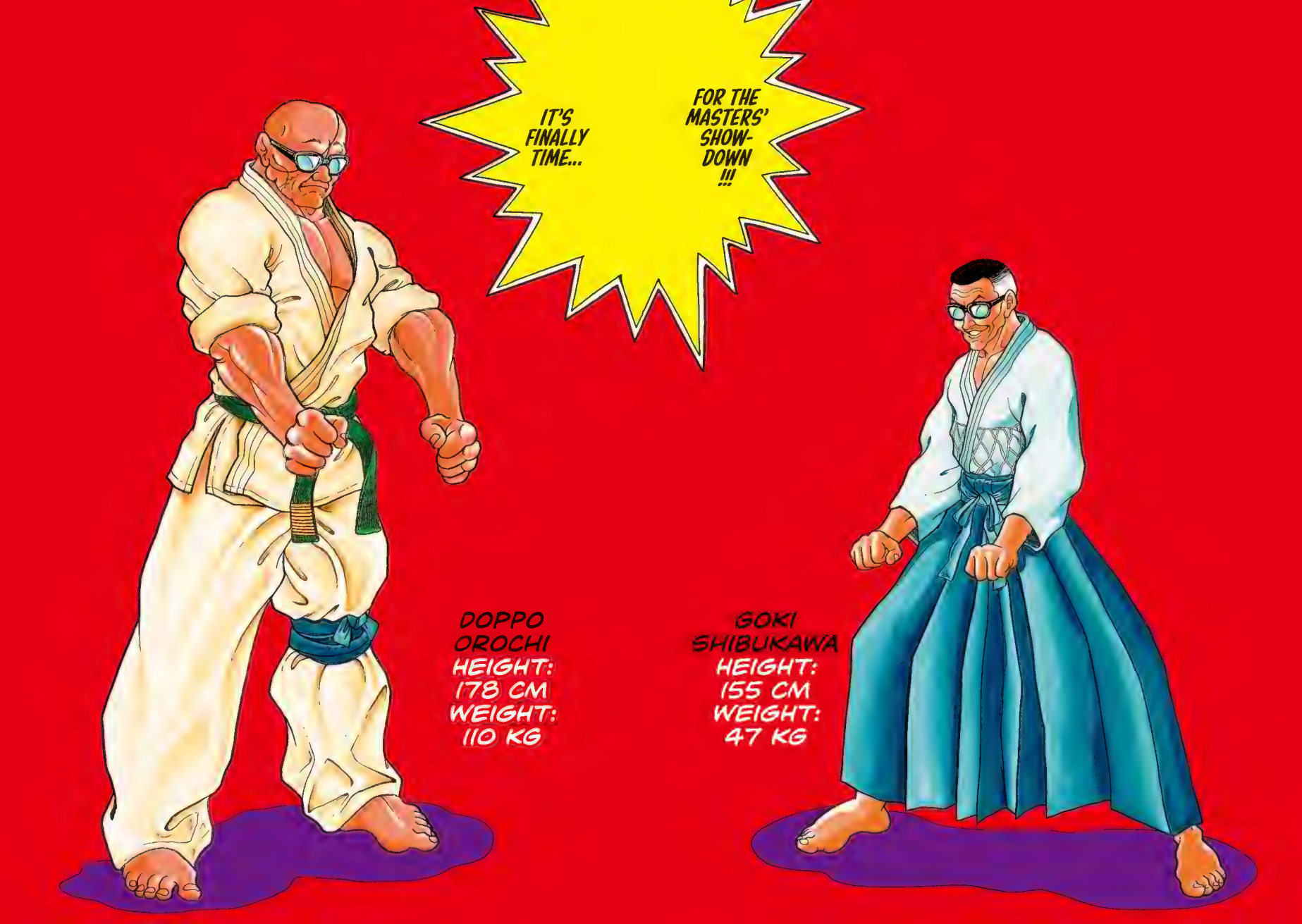
YOU'VE BECOME TOO STRONG.

THE WINNER IS...

...JACK HAMMER!!!

STRUMP

#306 A Real Seiken!!


IT'S FINALLY TIME...
FOR THE MASTERS' SHOW-DOWN !!!
DOPPO OROCHI
HEIGHT: 178 CM
WEIGHT: 110 KG
GOKI SHIBUKAWA
HEIGHT: 155 CM
WEIGHT: 47 KG

THE GRAPPLER
20 BA

IT'S NOT LIKE THIS.

A REAL SEIKEN ISN'T LIKE THIS.

...AND EVERY NIGHT, I WOULD ASK MYSELF THE QUESTION.

YOU SEE, I'VE BEEN MAKING FISTS LIKE THIS FOR DECADES...

I GUESS IT *WAS* WRONG AFTER ALL...

...

...

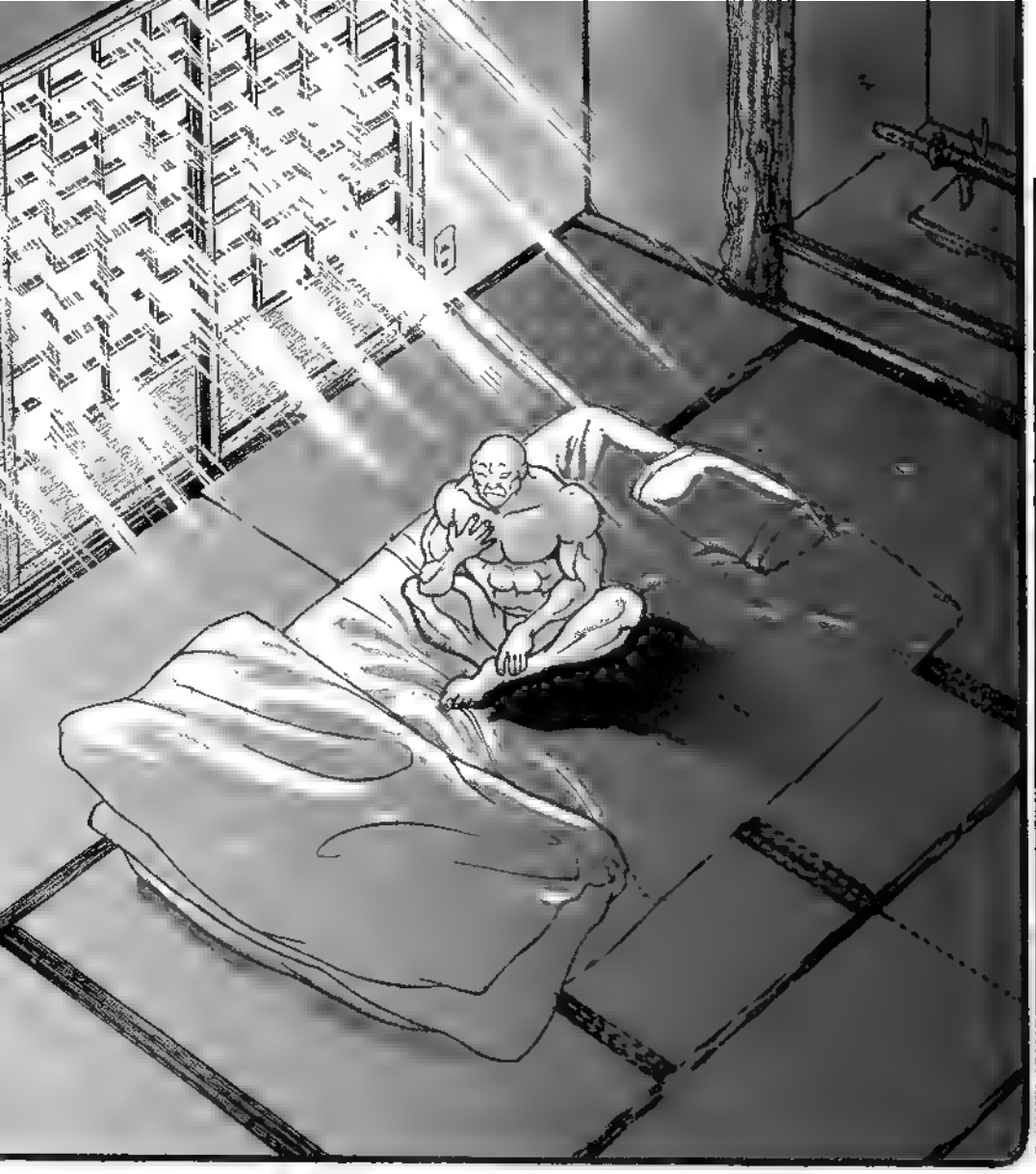
IS THIS HOW I SHOULD BE CLENCHING FOR A SEIKEN?

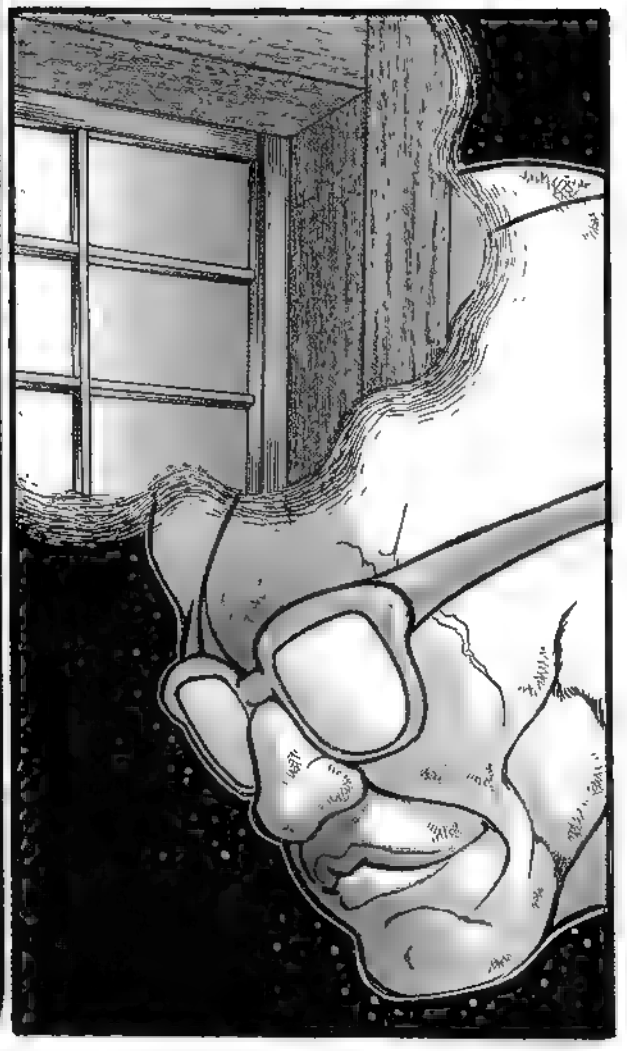
EVEN IF I TOLD YOU, YOU WOULDN'T GET IT.

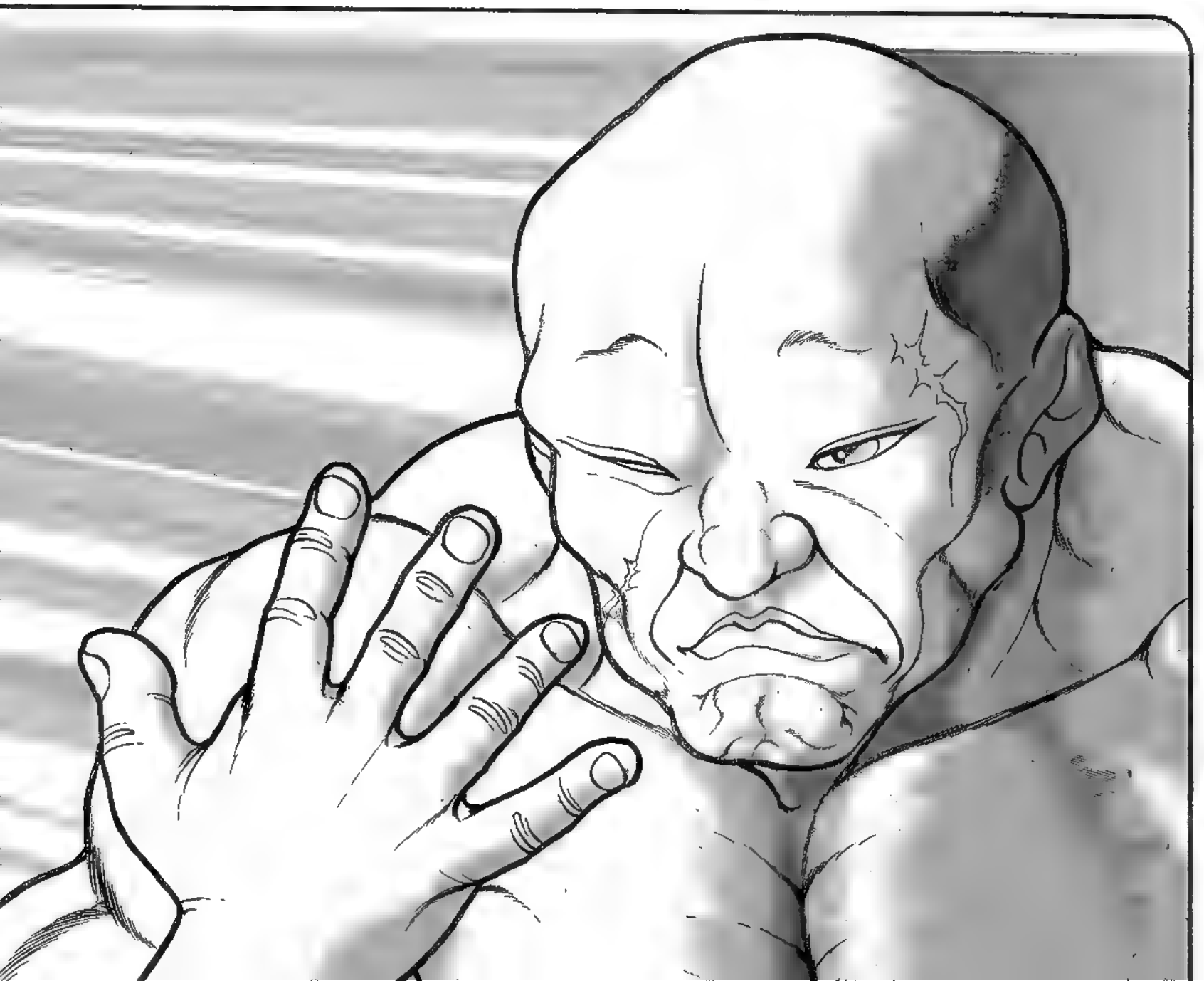
W-WHAT DO YOU MEAN IT'S WRONG, DIRECTOR?

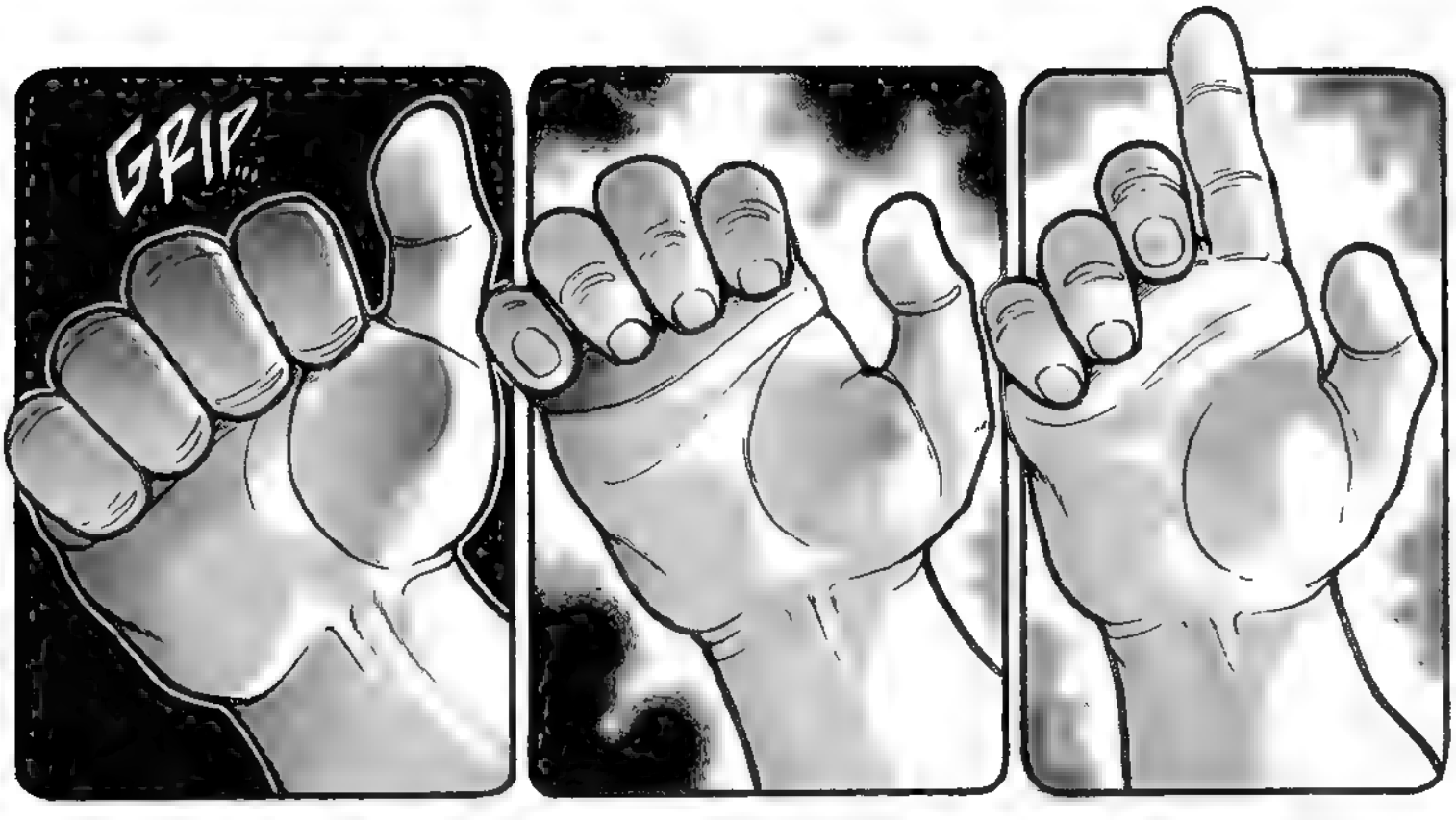
...I NEVER GOT A CHANCE TO USE IT AGAINST AMANAI...

IN MY LAST MATCH...








GRIP...

I'VE GRIPPED MY FIST THIS WAY TENS OF MILLIONS OF TIMES...

...IT FEELS KIND OF WRONG...

BUUUUUT...

WHEN I WAS A CHILD...

I WOULD TAPE TOGETHER PAPER...

...SHEETS UPON SHEETS...

...FIRST ONE, THEN ANOTHER ...

I BELIEVED THAT THEY'D TURN INTO ONE SOMEDAY.

I KEPT WRITING LIKE A BOY POSSESSED...

IN A TRANCE, I FIGURED IT OUT.

HOW LONG DID I KEEP IT UP?

...BUT 0.999 WOULD NEVER BECOME 1.

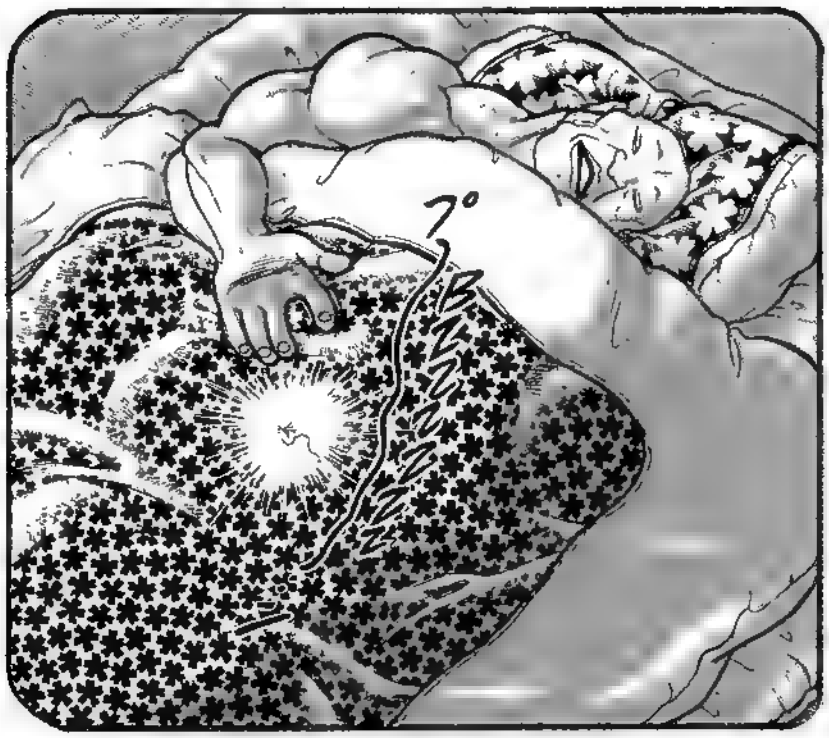
I WOULD ALWAYS COME CLOSE...

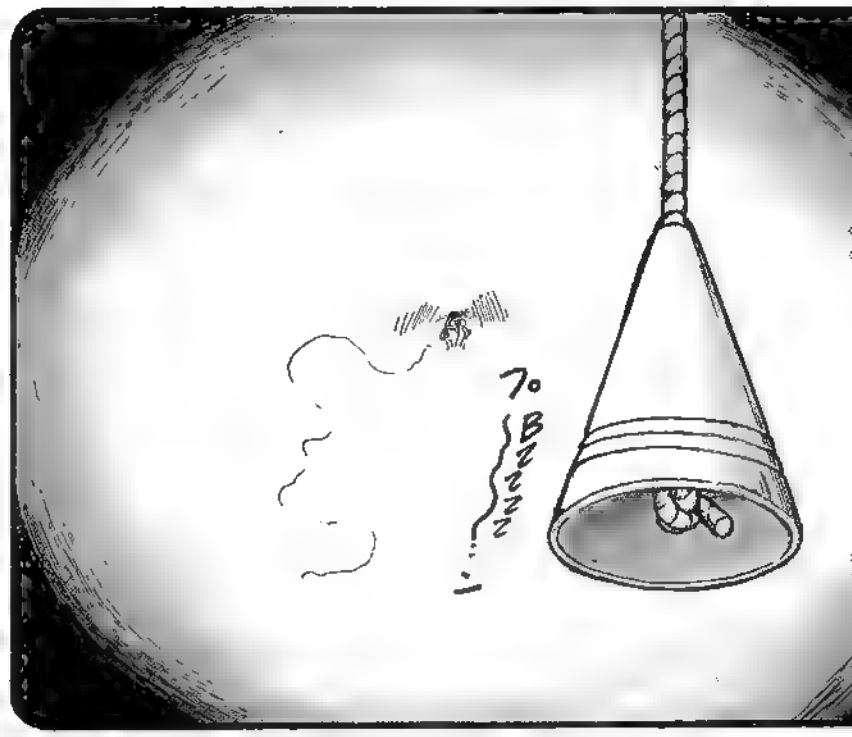
AS CLOSE AS I WOULD COME...

...IT'LL NEVER BE A SEIKEN...

...EH?

7° BIIIII


7°


7° BIIIII

BIIII

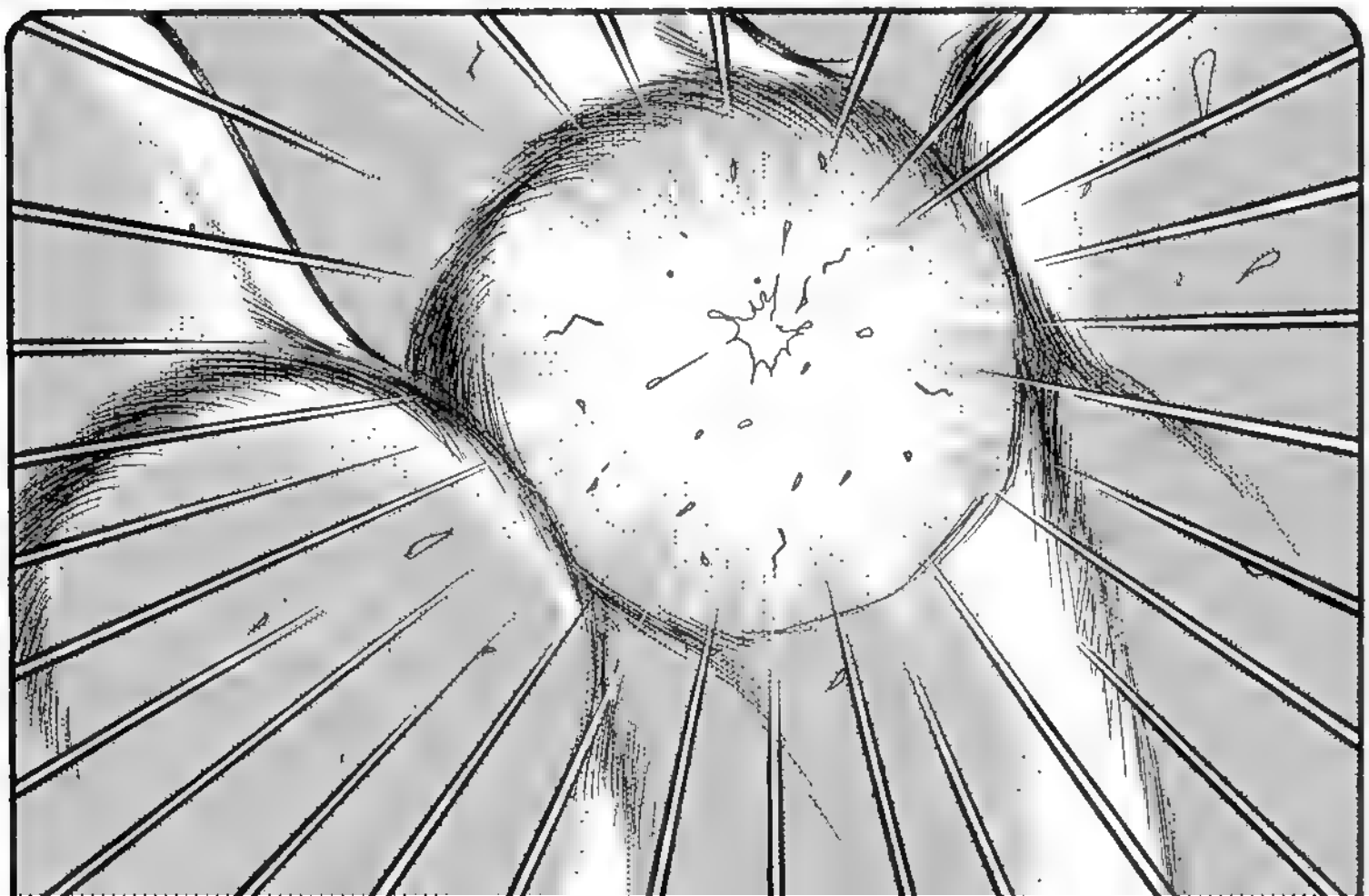
SNOOP

...

...

WHAT A SOUND...

WHAT...



...WAS FROM ME SWATTING THAT MOSQUITO?

A-ARE YOU SAYING THAT SOUND...

THIS FORM...

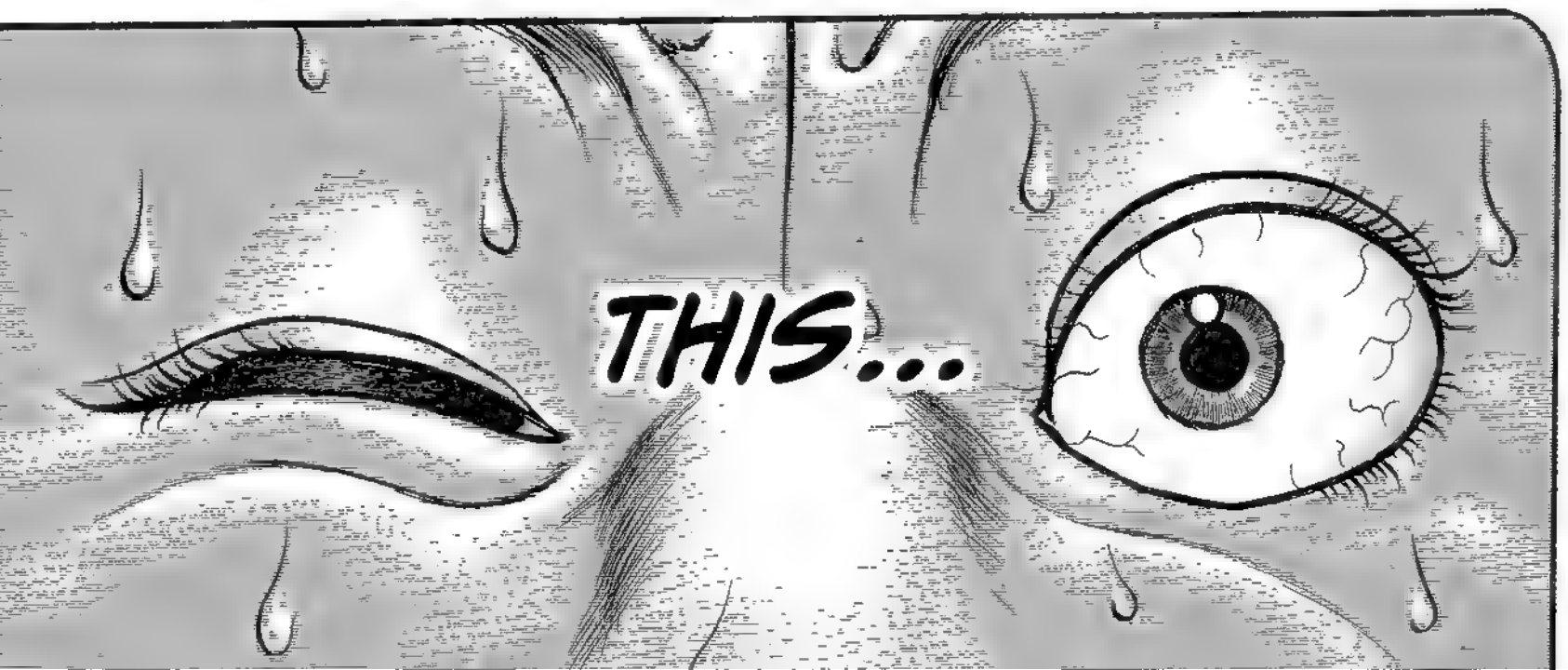
HOW IN THE HELL DID I HIT IT...?!

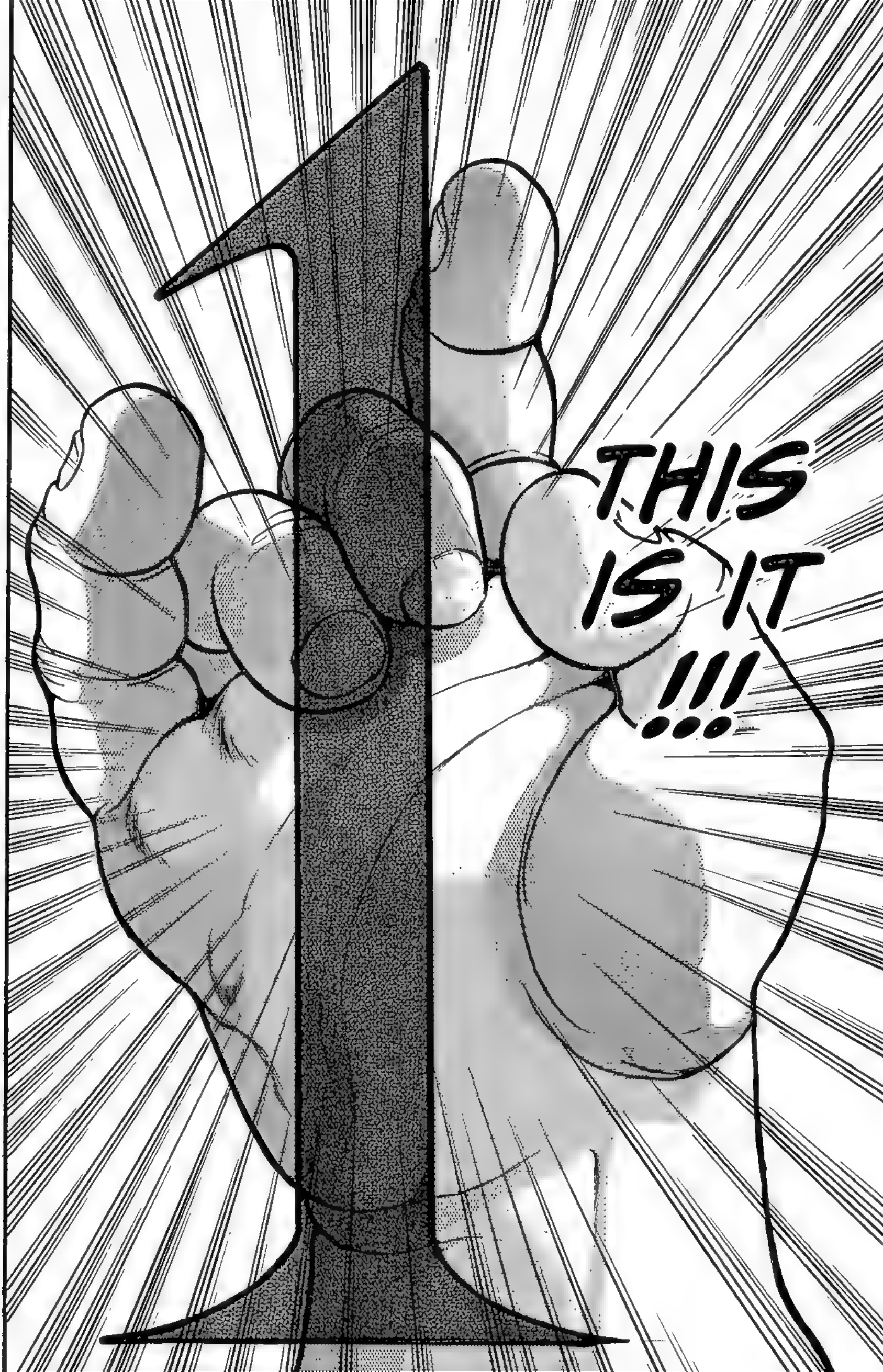
HOW DID I HOLD MY FIST...?!

THE BODHISATTVA STATUE HAND...

...FIST A PERSON MAKES...!

IT'S SAID TO BE THE FIRST...


THIS...


THIS
IS IT
!!!

HAAAAH...

DOPPO OROCHI IS MORE THAN WARMED UP BY NOW.

ARE YOU SURE?

WARMED UP, EH?

AAAH ...

WELL, HE IS JUST A SPORTS-MAN.

FROM THE BLUE DRAGON CORNER, IT'S THE MASTER, GOKI SHIBUKAWA!

#307 Aiki!!!

MASTER VERSUS MASTER!

SHIBUKAWA-RYU JUJUTSU VS. OROCHI KARATE!

IT'S LIKE THE WORLD OF SANSHIRO SUGATA!

SOFT VERSUS STRONG!

A MATCH THAT'S BOUND TO STIR UP PASSIONATE DEBATE AMONGST FIGHTING FANS!

HOWEVER, IT'S UNDENIABLE THAT BOTH OF THESE MEN ARE ABOUT TO FACE EACH OTHER IN THE MOST SERIOUS OF CONTESTS!

BOTH FIGHTERS SMIRK SILENTLY, WITHOUT A HINT OF BLOODLUST IN THE AIR.

朱雀

YOU MEAN THE *DIRECTOR* ?!

HE'S *NOT* A MARTIAL ARTIST?

THAT'S BECAUSE HE BELIEVES THAT MARTIAL ARTISTS SHOULD *ALWAYS* BE READY FOR COMBAT.

MR. SHIBUKAWA DIDN'T DO A SINGLE PRE-MATCH WARMUP EXERCISE.

...!!!

NO ONE CAN TELL HIM OTHERWISE.

THAT'S WHAT GOKI SHIBUKAWA SAID HIMSELF.

...

DEFEATING YOU IS THE DREAM OF ALL KARATEKA.

MR. SHIBUKAWA.

I'M DELIGHTED TO BE BLESSED WITH THE FORTUNE OF HAVING THIS CHANCE.

AAAH...

...TREAT ME WELL.

PLEASE...

AH! AAH! AAH ...!!!

HOWEVER, CAN OROCHI ACCEPT IT AT FACE VALUE?! IT'S HARD TO GAUGE HIS TRUE INTENTIONS!

MASTER SHIBUKAWA TAKES A DEEP BOW!

OOH!

OOH! THE GOD OF MARTIAL ARTS IS WALKING BACK TO HIS CORNER, LEAVING HIS OPPONENT'S HEAD HANGING!

BOTH FIGHTERS, TO YOUR POSITIONS !!!

DOPPO OROCHI IS A BATTLE-HARDENED VETERAN!

Woooo

MASTER SHIBUKAWA HAS RETURNED TO HIS STARTING POSITION...

...AND WE'RE ABOUT TO GET STARTED!!!

BEGIN!

THUMP

BOTH MEN CLOSE THE DISTANCE!
HOWEVER, THEIR STRIDES ARE AS CASUAL AS TWO PEOPLE OUT ON A STROLL...
朱雀
朱雀
WOOOOOO
SWOO

FISTS AGAINST OPEN HANDS!

STRONG AGAINST SOFT!

AND STRANGELY ENOUGH, THEIR STANCES...

...ARE ALSO THE SAME!

白虎

NEITHER IS ENGAGING!!!

BOTH FIGHTERS HAVE STOPPED A HALF A STEP AWAY FROM EACH OTHER!

NOW THEN...

SWOO

INCH

GRIN

WSH

虎

H-HE'S GOOD !!!

BRAK

AIK!
!!!

KA-PEWN

THAT'S MAN-EATER OROCHI FOR YOU. IMPRESSIVE HORSEPOWER! ♡

OHOOO! YOU FLEW THAT FAR, EH?

#308 Orochi Flies!!

AH...!
IT'S AIKI!!!
THE CLASSIC-STYLE JUJUTSU TECHNIQUE, AIKI...
...ERUPTS HERE WITHIN THE ULTIMATE RULES OF THIS UNDERGROUND ARENA!
THIS MASTER IS ON TOP OF HIS GAME!!!

...THERE'S PROBABLY BARELY TEN MARTIAL ARTISTS WHO HAVE MASTERED TRUE AIKI—

IN THE HUNDRED-YEAR HISTORY OF THE MODERN MARTIAL ARTS WORLD SINCE THE MEIJI ERA...

HOWEVER, ALL OF THOSE PRACTITIONERS HAVE ONLY BEEN ABLE TO USE AIKI WITHIN ***PREORDAINED CIRCUMSTANCES.***

...THIS MAN...

白虎

THE ONLY ONE TO EVER USE *AIKI* IN *LIVE COMBAT* HAS BEEN...

...GOKI SHIBUKAWA— HE'S THE FIRST AND LIKELY THE ONLY.

IMPRESSIVE HORSEPOWER!

BOY, YOU FLEW SO FAR.

...ASSUMES THE TENCHI-JOGE STANCE!!!

THERE IT IS! THE GOD OF MARTIAL ARTS, DOPPO OROCHI...

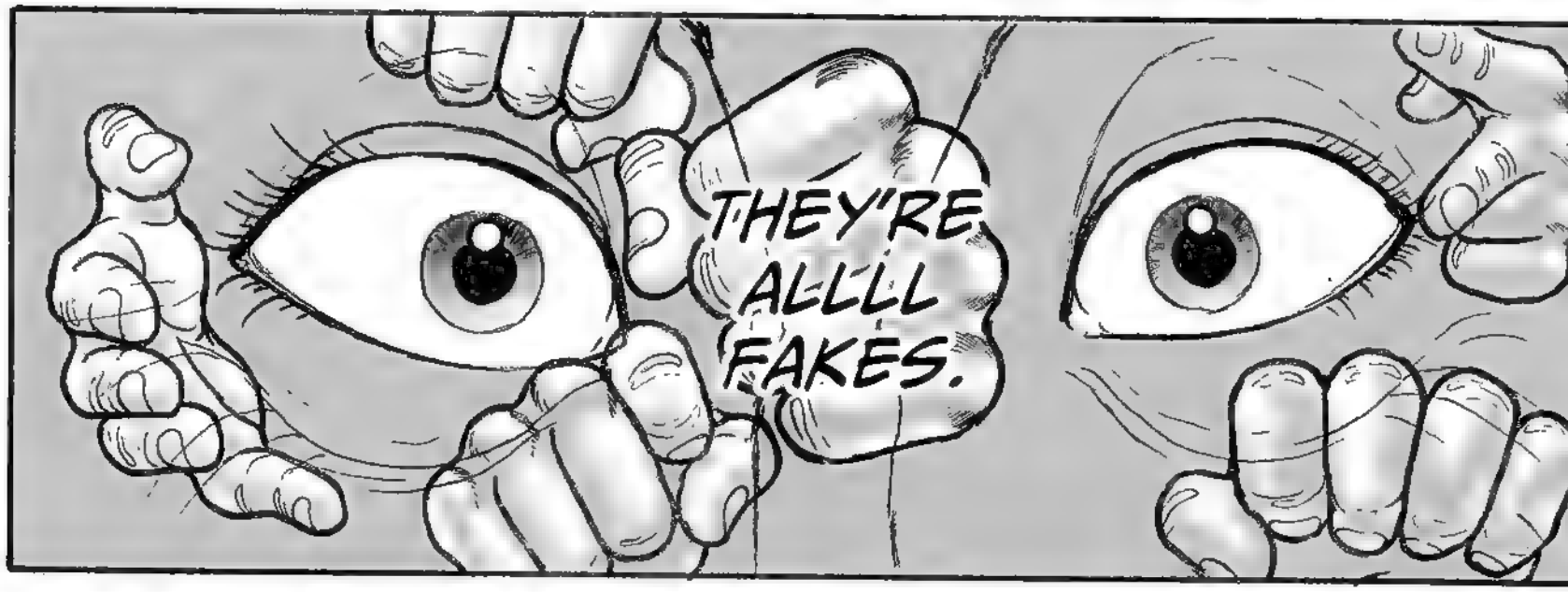
WOOOO

...HANGS HIS HANDS TO HIS SIDE WITHOUT ASSUMING STANCE!

IN RESPONSE, GOKI SHIBUKAWA ...

SHF

THERE HE GOOOOES!!!


THEY'RE ALLLL FAKES.

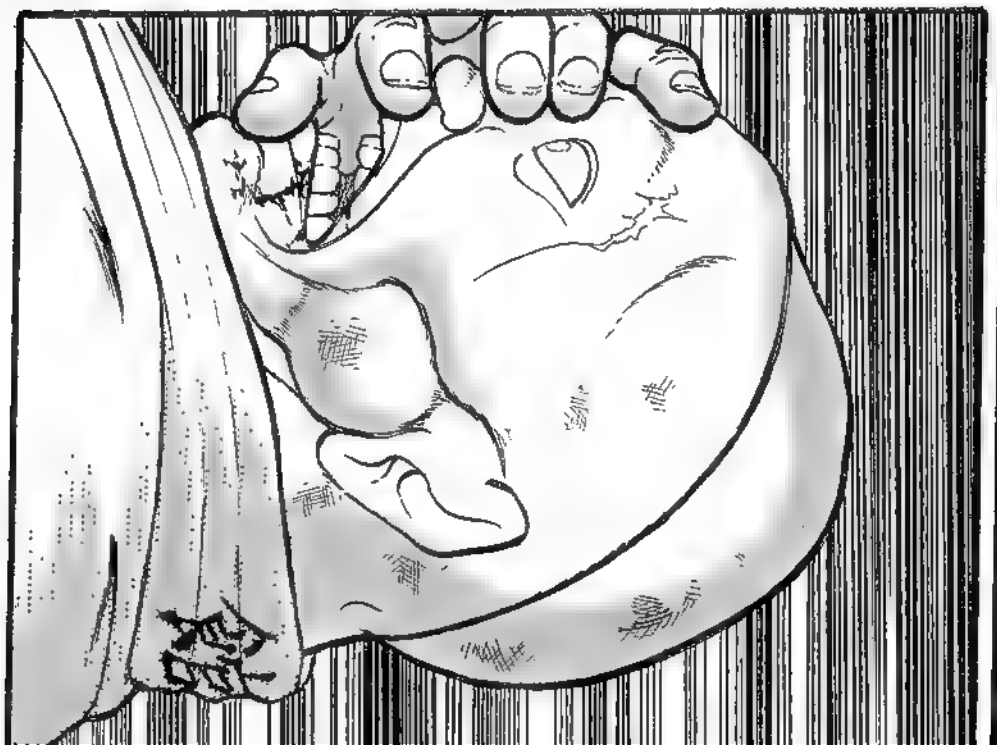
WOO

HERE IT IS!

PSH

THOOF

UP WE GO!



DOSUKO!!

!
GRAB
TMP

A LEFT SHITAZUKI UPPERCUT! THE DIRECTOR'S SIGNATURE MOVE!

BONK

SHA!

A HEADBUTT !!!

A...

SHII!

A HEADBUTT IN JUJUTSU?!

SMACK

DOPPO'S LAST-DITCH CHOP STOPPED JUST SHORT OF IMPACT!!!

WHA?!

WHAT HAPPENED ?!

HEY, WHAT DID HE USE?!

HE USED THAT IN REAL COMBAT?

HE...

THIS BATTLE BETWEEN MASTERS IS TOO HARD TO FOLLOW!!!

WHAT IN THE WORLD HAPPENED?!

AAH...!!!

IT'S FROM HIS FOOT!!!

...HE'S IMMOBILIZED OROCHI!!!

WITH JUST ONE TOE...

HUP! ♡

HO-
HOIIII!

CHOI!

A-
HUP
!

PASH

IPPON!
♡
HE'S NOT JUST ANY OLD GEEZER!!!

#309 Perfect

THE MASTER, GOKI SHIBUKAWAAAA!!!

HIS POWER IS UNFATHOMABLE !!!

160000 VOLTS

朱雀

HE'S STRONG, STRONG, STROOOONG !!!

...EVEN SOMEONE THAT SIZE CAN BECOME THIS POWERFUL !!!

BUT THROUGH THE WAY OF THE MARTIAL ARTS...

...COULD BE DESCRIBED AS BEING WOMAN-LIKE!

THAT 155-CENTIMETER, 47-KILO FRAME...

DIREC-
TOOOR!
BRAVO, JAPANESE MARTIAL ARTS!!!
WELL DONE, GOKI SHIBU-KAWA!!!

...WITH A COUNTER TO CLASSIC-STYLE JUJUTSU.

I REALLY NEED TO COME UP...

...AIKI THEORY, WHICH WAS ONCE THOUGHT TO BE IMPOSSIBLE, JUST LIKE THAT.

I CAN'T BELIEVE HE MANAGED TO COMPLETELY REALIZE...

HE'S GONE AND MASTERED IT.

...NO ***ONE*** CAN BEAT HIM. NOBODY STANDS A CHANCE.

NOW THAT HE'S DONE THAT...

...AND HE SENDS IT BACK TO THEM WITH HIS OWN FORCE ADDED.

HE TAKES THE FORCE OF ANY FOE ATTEMPTING TO INFLICT HARM..

THE GREATER THE FORCE OF THE ATTACK DELIVERED BY A FOE...

...THE GREATER THE COUNTER-ATTACK THEY RECEIVE.

...IS GOING TO WALK AWAY WITH THE TITLE.

THAT OLD MAN...

...!

IT'S A PERFECT FORM OF MARTIAL ARTS.

NOW I SEE.

青竜
THAT WAS A BLAST.

...YOU CAN HIT BACK WITH A TEN PLUS YOUR OWN STRENGTH.

SO IF SOMEONE ATTACKS YOU AT A TEN...

OOH!

THE LEVEL OF YOUR COUNTER-ATTACK CHANGES ACCORDING TO THE STRENGTH OF YOUR OPPONENT'S ATTACK.

PRETTY NEAT, ISN'T IT?

THE GOD OF MARTIAL ARTS IS TRYING TO STAND?!

青竜

I STOOD UP...

RIGHT, OLD TIMER?

YOU NEED TO FINISH ME OFF...

...WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF I *STOP* BEING YOUR FOE, MASTER?

BUT...

本部神

HE'S UP!!!

青竜

...BUT WHAT MORE CAN HE EVEN DO?!

HE IS BACK ON HIS FEET...

青竜

THEY'RE FAR TOO PERFECT!

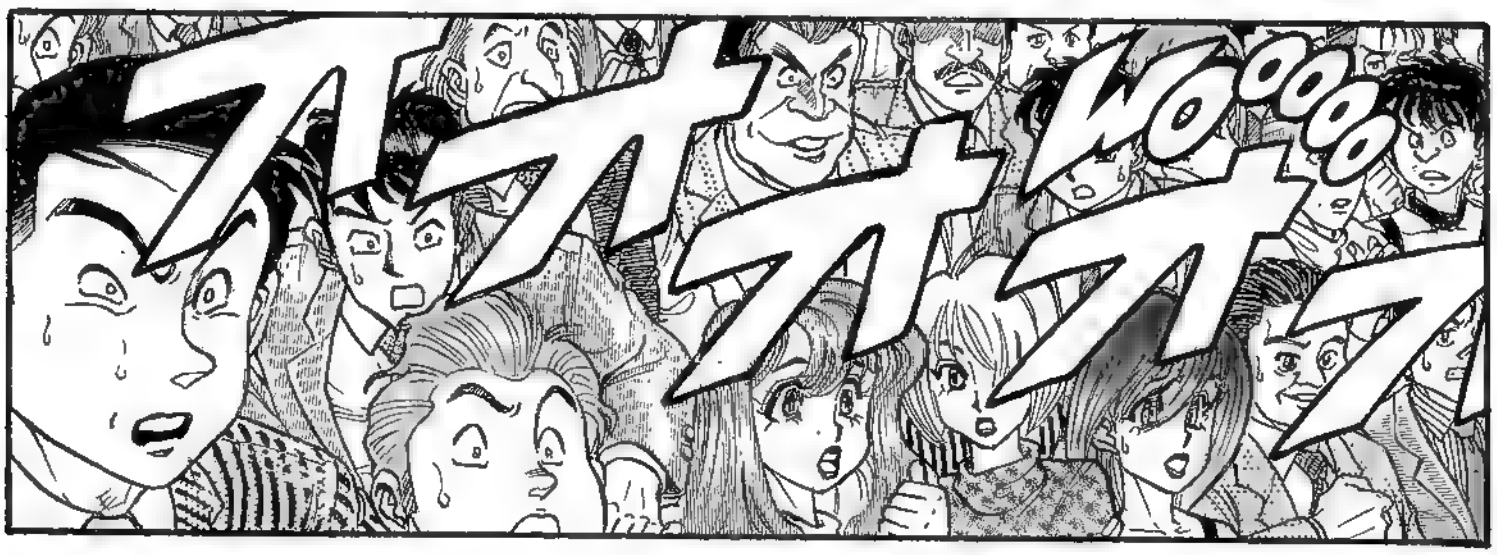
THE MASTER'S TECHNIQUES ARE PERFECT!

I WON'T ATTACK YOU.

THEY'RE STANDING STILL!

BOTH FIGHTERS HAVE CEASED MOVING!

青竜館長



THIS IS IDEAL.

白虎

THERE-FORE...

THERE'S NO NEED TO DO ANYTHING AGAINST AN OPPONENT WHO DOES NOTHING.

...AND NO LOSERS.

...NO WINNERS ...

...NO CONFLICT WILL EVER ARISE...

AN IDYLLIC WORLD.

BUT THIS IS A *MATCH.*

I WISH I COULD SAY THAT I DON'T CARE WHOSE ARE SUPERIOR, BUT I, SHIBUKAWA...

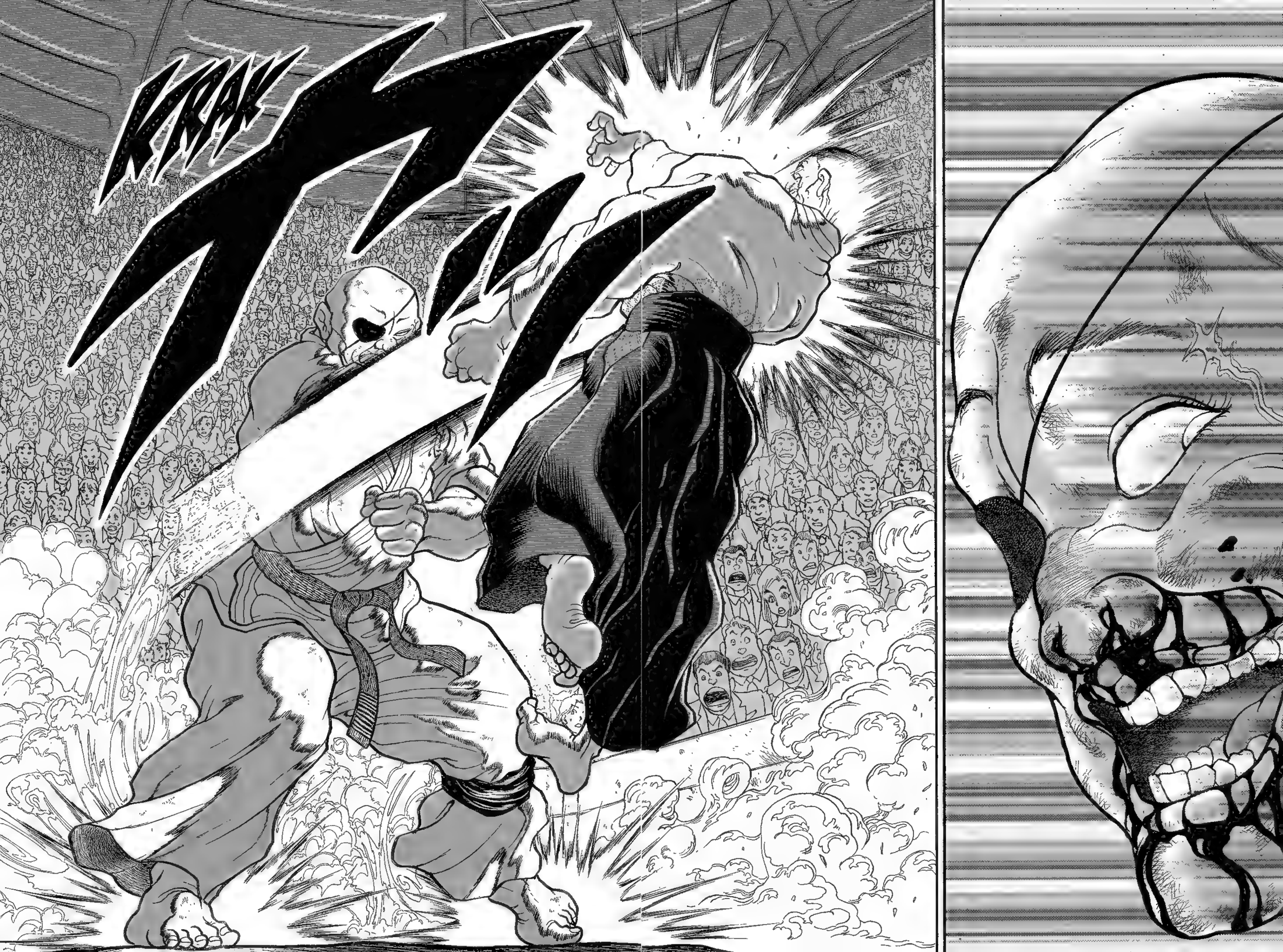
...AGAINST MINE.

YOUR TECH-NIQUES ...

...AM STILL TOO YOUNG FOR THAT!!!

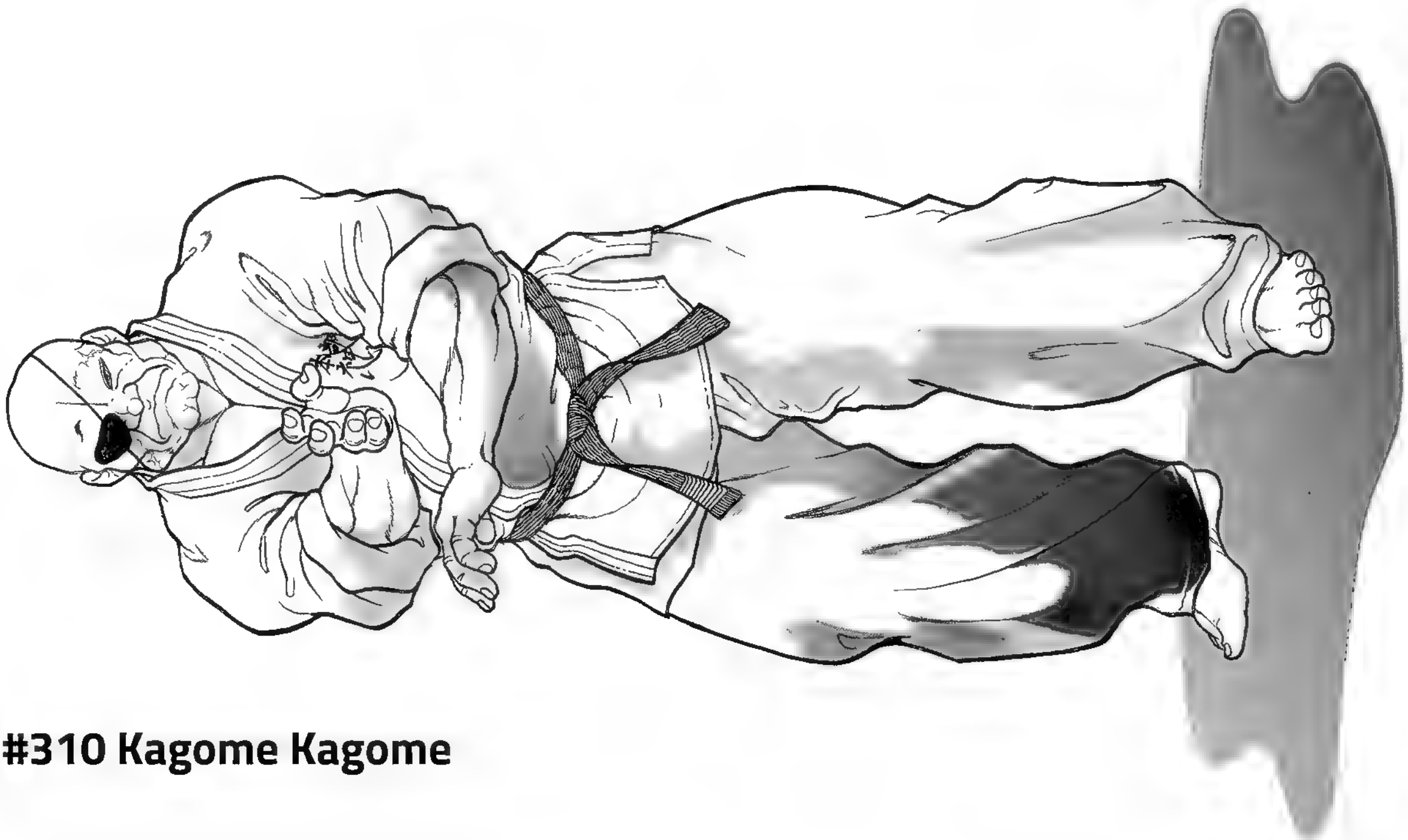
IT'S MINE!

YOUR SPINE!


KRAK

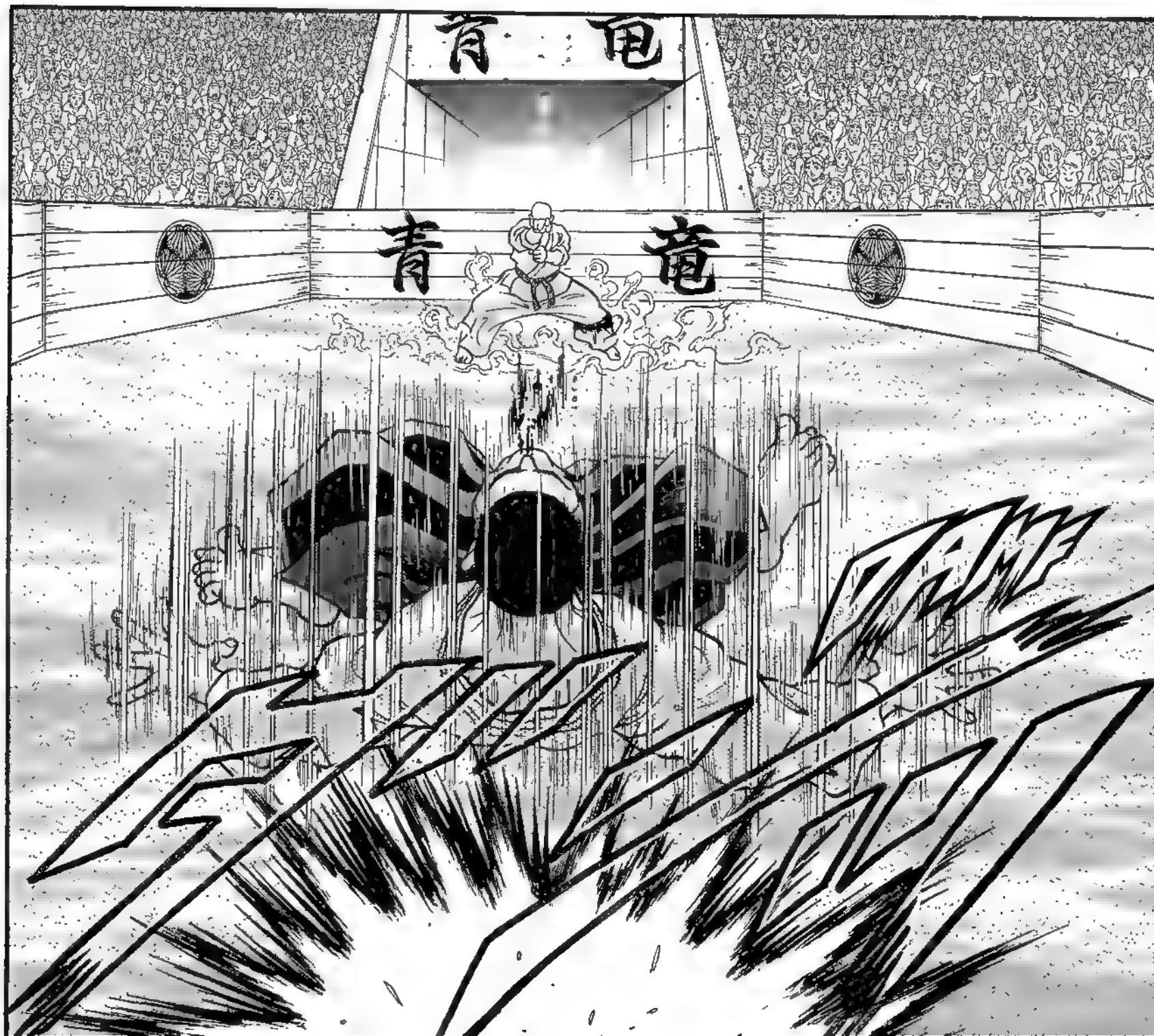
OH...!

HE HIT HIIIIIM!!!



#310 Kagome Kagome

HE HIT HIIIIIM!!!
青竜


青竜

HE'S COUNTERED IT!

THE UNTOUCHABLE LEGEND OF SHIBUKAWA-RYU JUJUTSU HAS JUST BEEN BROKEN!

THE ABSOLUTELY PERFECT SELF-DEFENSE ART...

...JUST ALLOWED A CLEAN HIT BEFORE THE TENACITY OF OROCHI-STYLE!

HE SCORED A HIT...

青竜

竜

...THE GOD OF MARTIAL ARTS WALKS FORWARD!

NOW... AS IF TO LAND THE FINISHING BLOW...

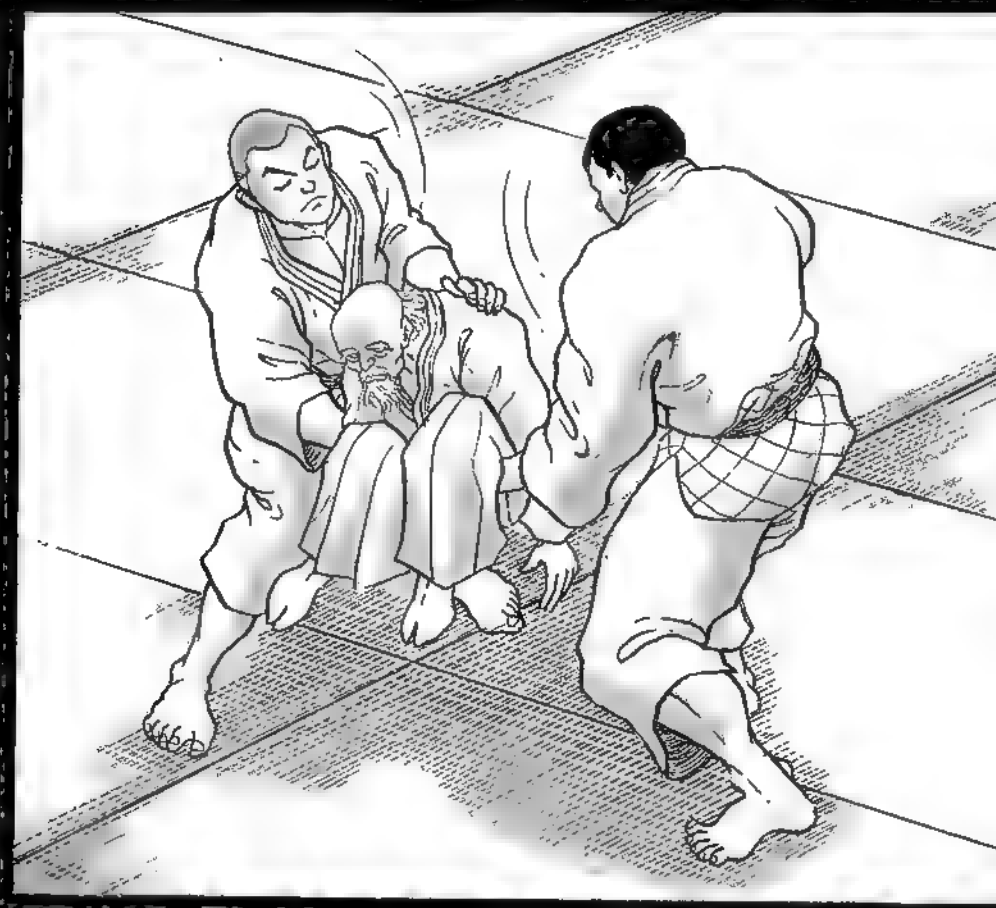
KA...
GO...
ME...

KA...
GO...
ME.

...THE... CAGE...

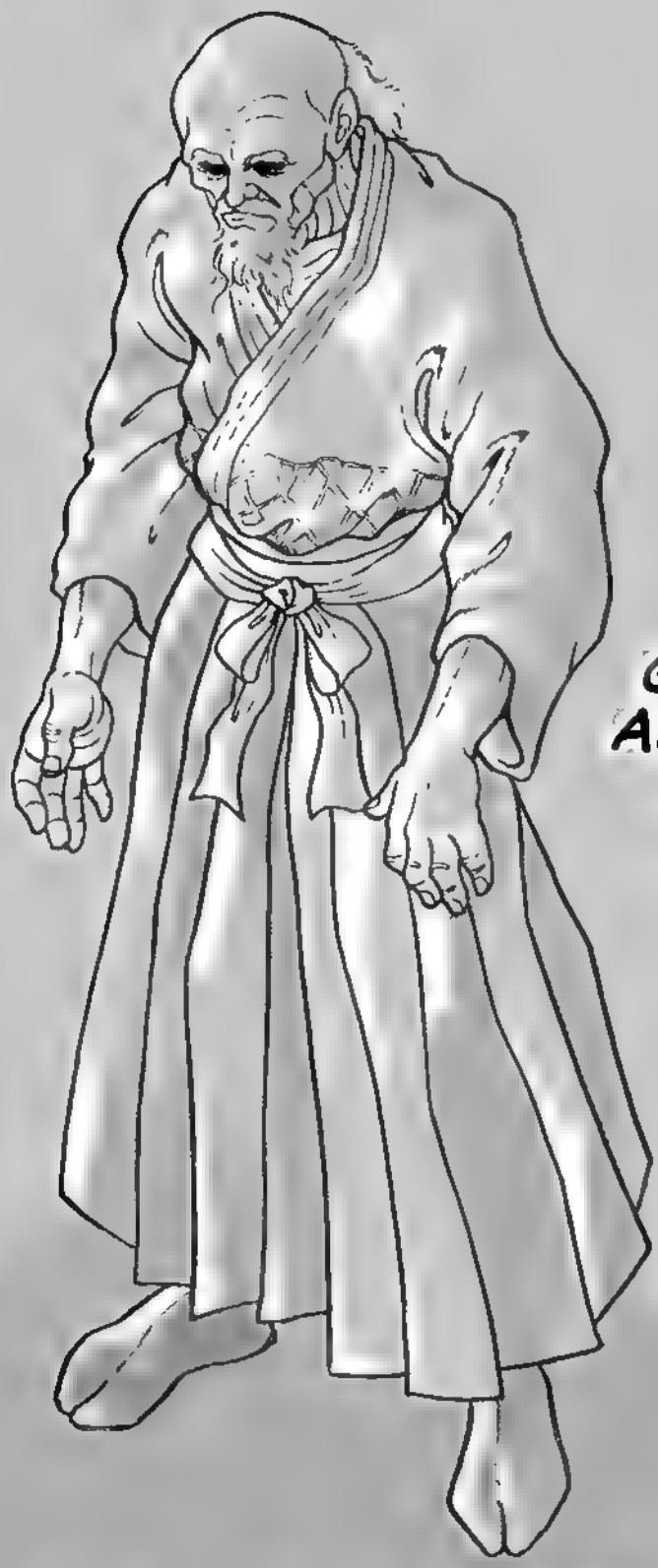
BIRD... IN...

195X, SHOWA ERA

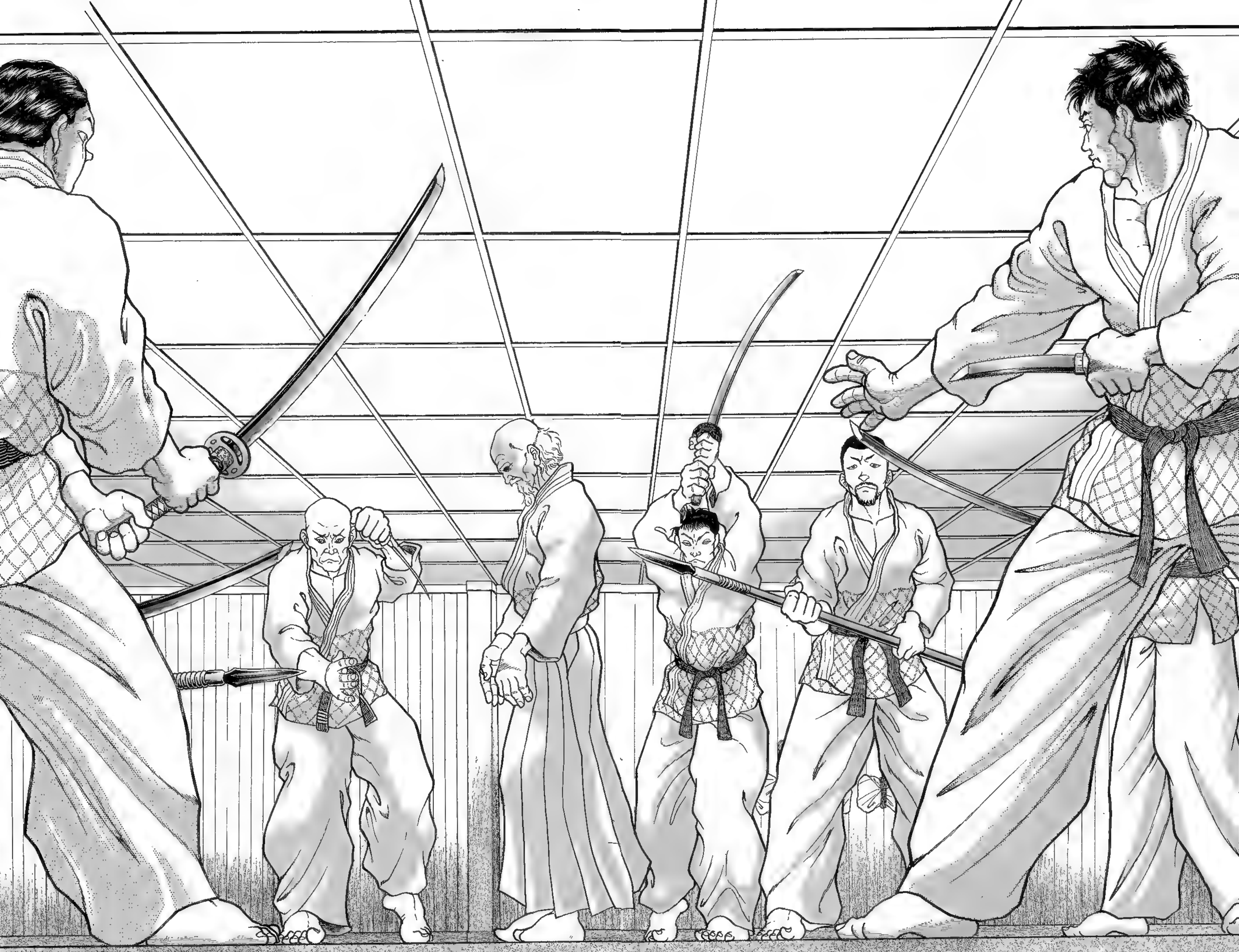


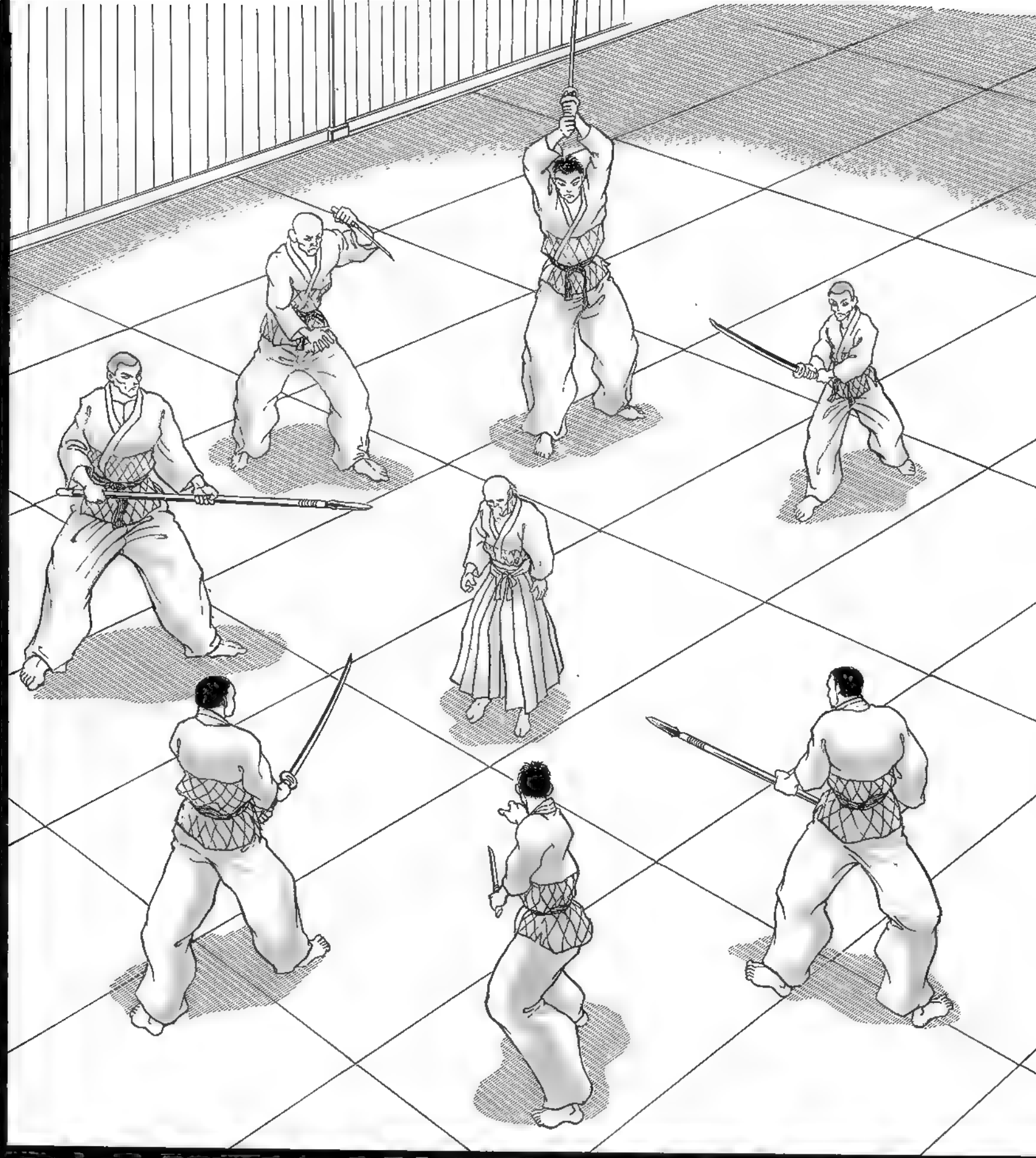
EXCUSE US!

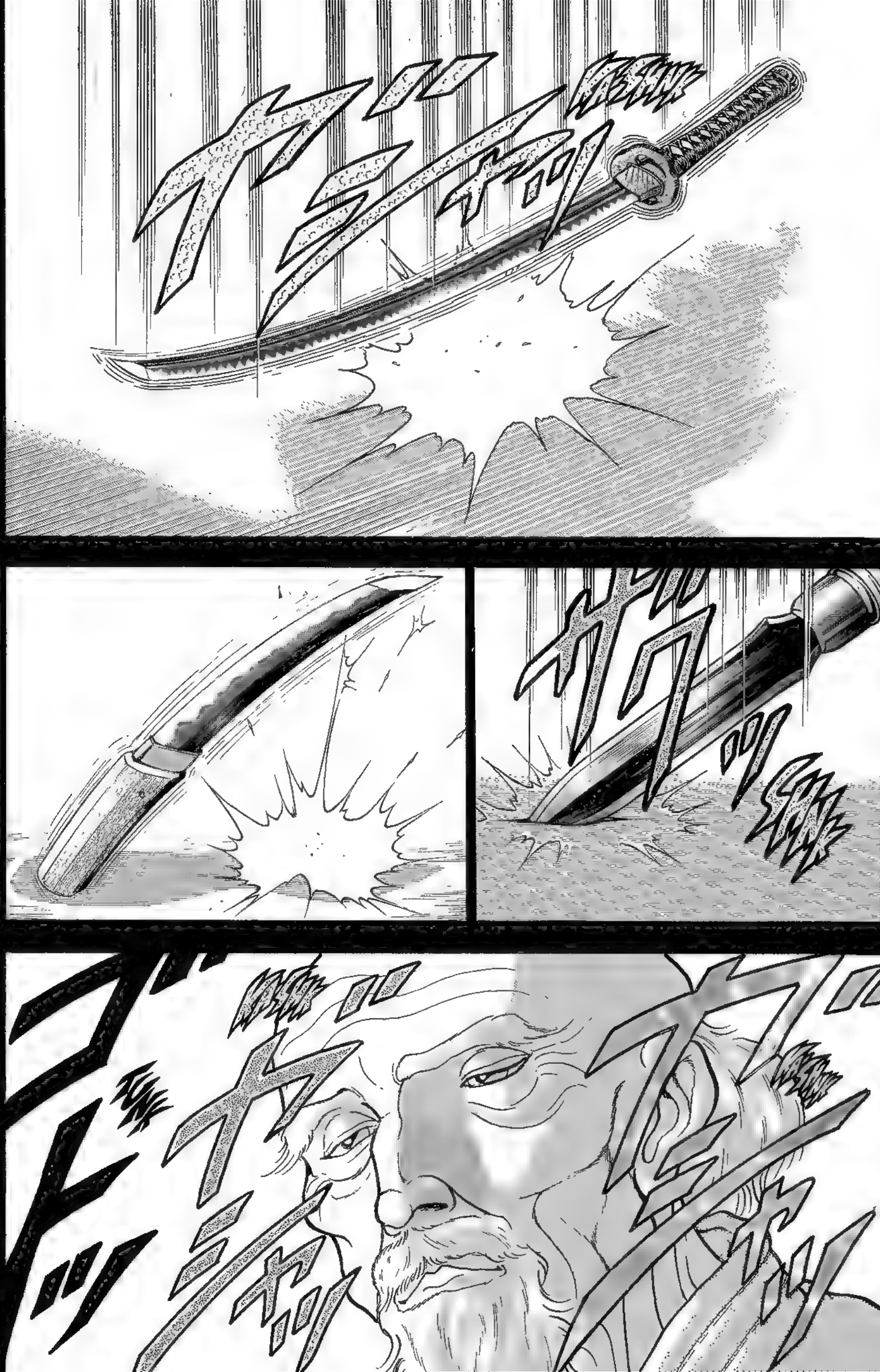
KIHEI
MIKOSHIBA



GOSHIN-RYU
AIKI JUJUTSU
FOUNDER







WE ARE TOO INEXPERI-ENCED!

WE CAN'T STRIKE YOU!

WE CONCEDE!

IT'S AS CLEAR AS DAY!!

WE WOULD GET STRUCK DOWN IF WE TRIED!

IT WILL HAMPER YOUR FOE'S WILL TO FIGHT.

LET YOUR ABILITY BE KNOWN BEFORE YOU STRIKE.

AND IN DOING SO, YOU NEVER COME TO BLOWS.

THIS IS MARTIAL ARTS.

THE CRANE AND THE TURTLE...

...SLIIIIPED...

SHINK

SHIBU-
KAWA!!!

WHO
IS THAT
BEHIIIIND
YOU?

GOKI
SHIBUKAWA,
AGE 39

#311 I Just Can't Picture It, Sir

SHIBU-KAWA!

...BEHIIIIND YOU?

WHO IS THAAAAAT...

I JUST CAN'T PICTURE IT, SIR.

...BUT IT REAAAALLY DOESN'T LOOK THAT WAY TO ME.

ALL OF MY SENIORS REVERE YOU AS A GREAT, INVINCIBLE MARTIAL ARTIST, ELDER MIKOSHIBA...

HOW DARE YOU SAY THAT TO THE GREAT MASTER—

SHIBUKAWA, YOU BASTARD !!!

GRAB

WE STAKE OUR LIVES ON JUJUTSU.

WHAT RIGHT DO YOU COWARDS HAVE SNAPPING AT ME WHEN YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE THE GUTS TO ATTACK YOUR OWN MASTER?

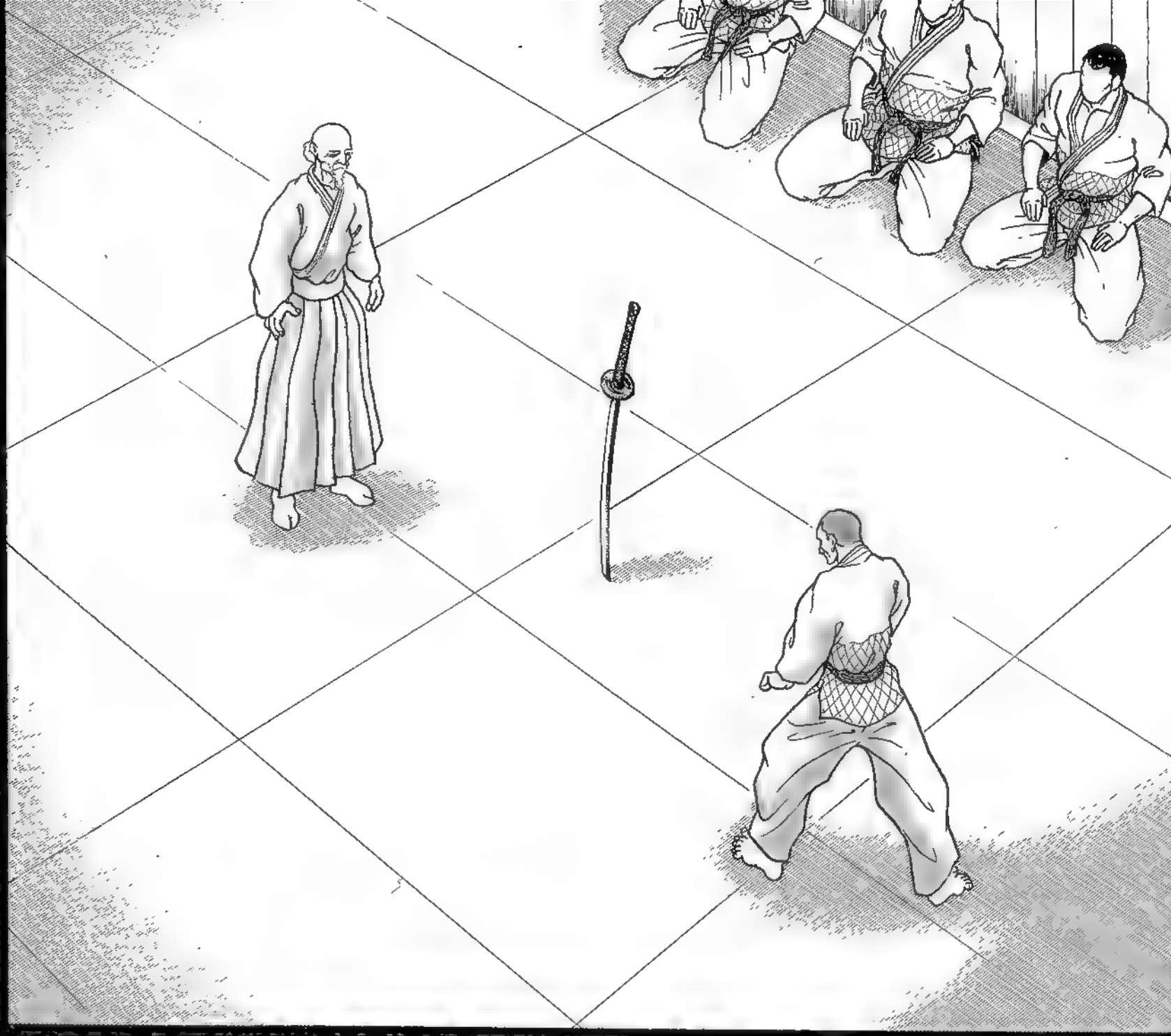
STEP BACK.

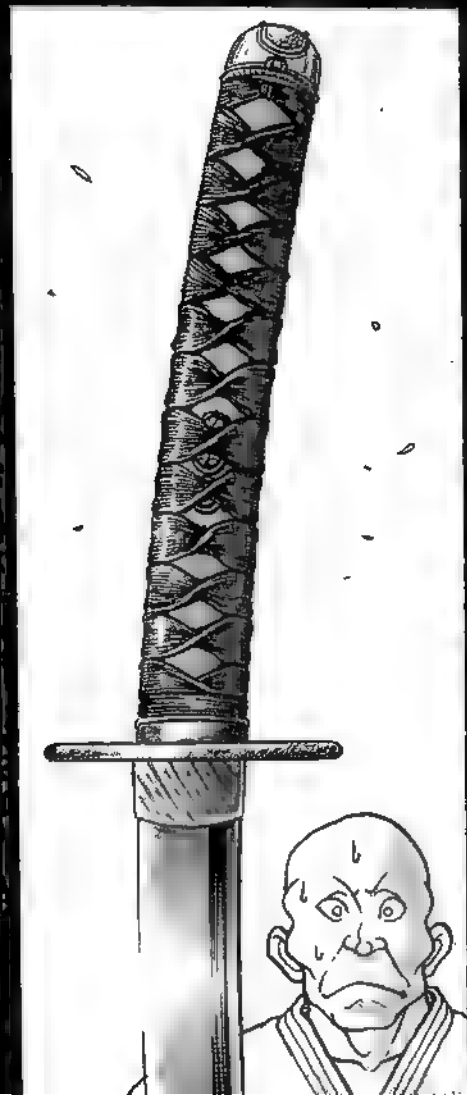
EVERYONE, STEP BACK.

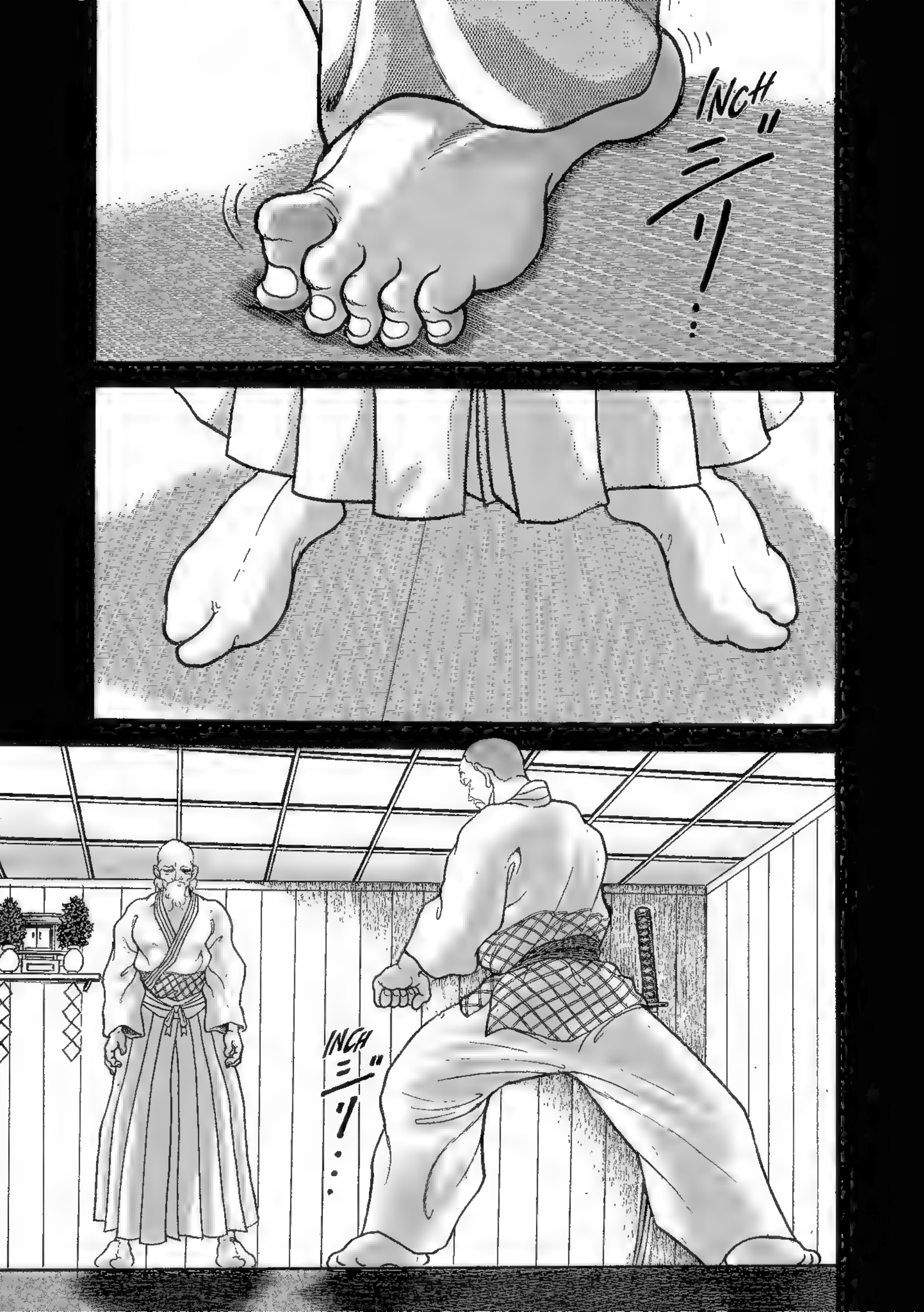
IF I FACE HIM, IT WILL SETTLE THIS...

...

...



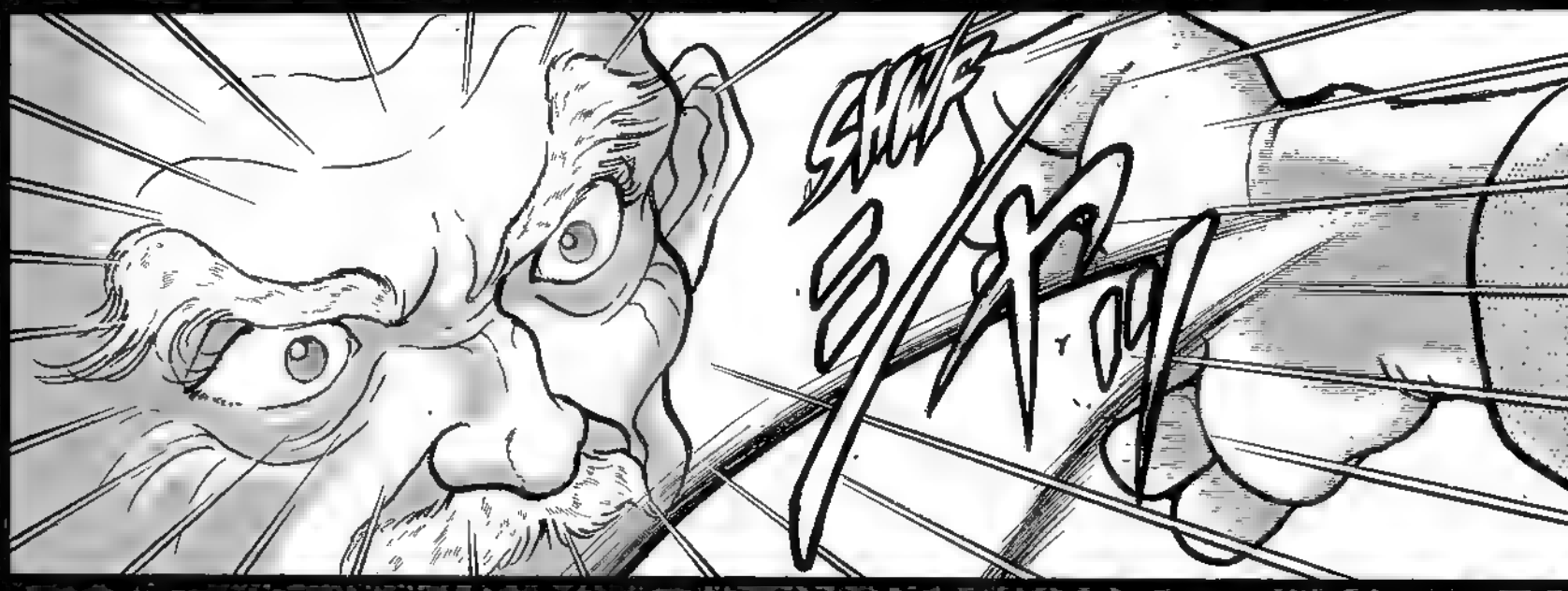




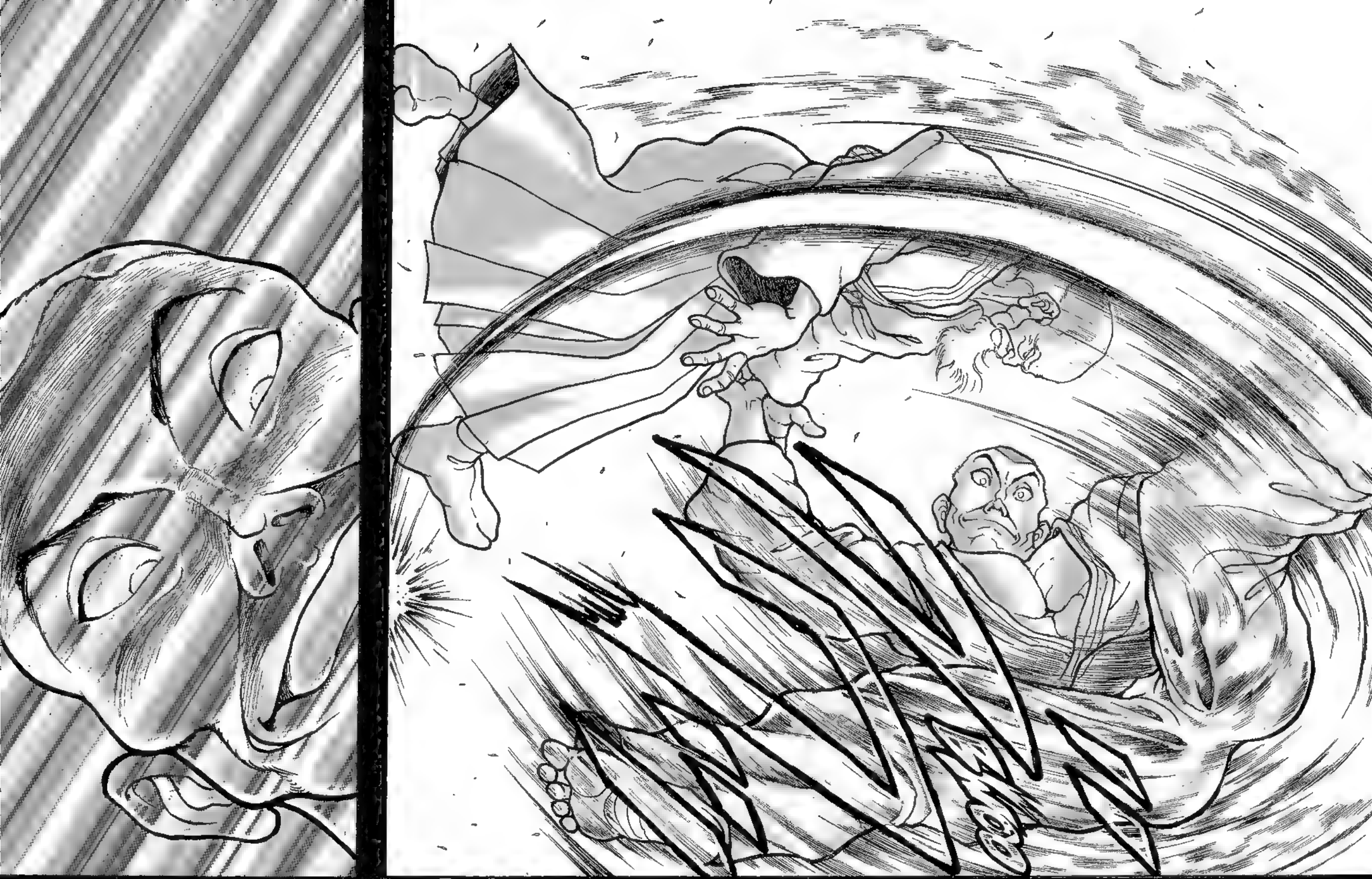
INCH
ジリッ…
INCH
ジリッ…

URK...
SHIBU-KAWA...
...IS CLOSING IN.

TH-THE MASTER IS MOVING HIMSELF ...!!!
HERE I COME!!!

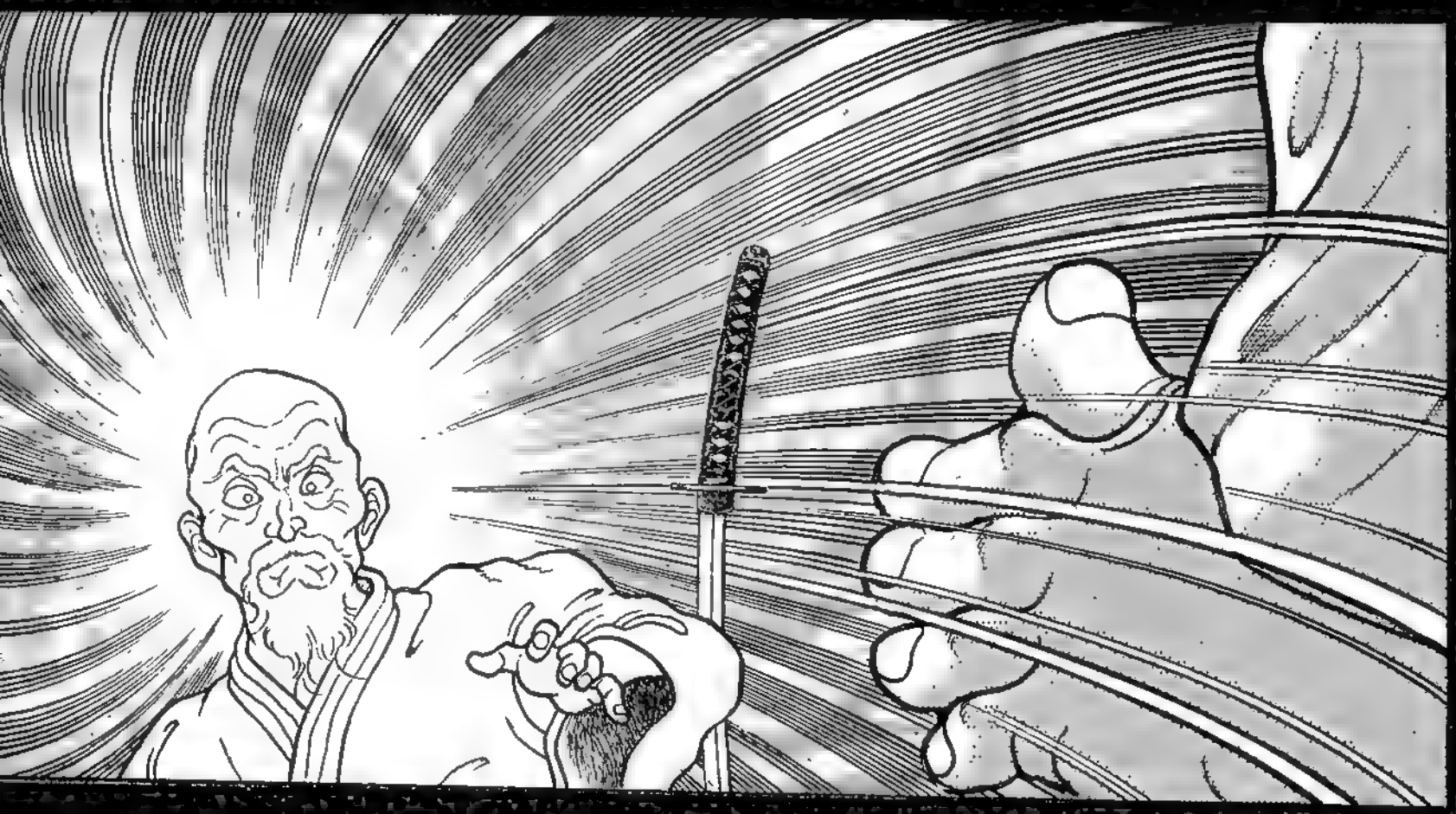

SHUF

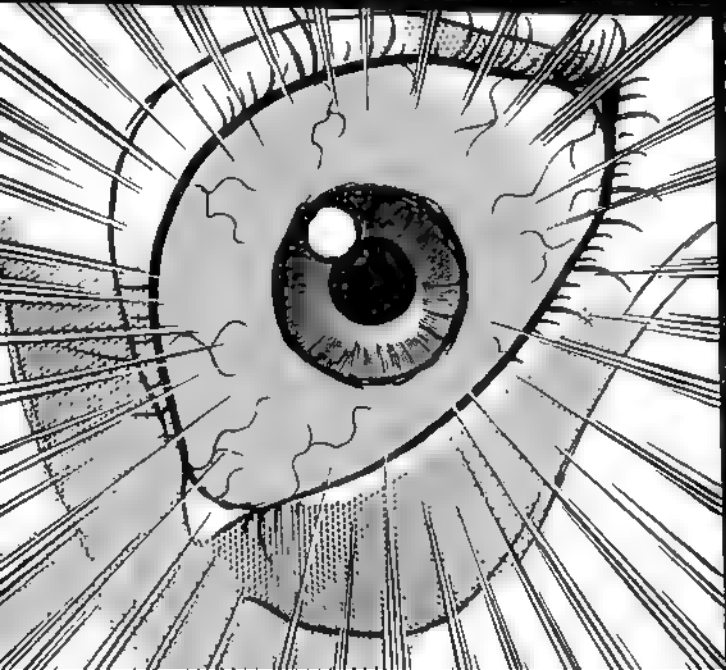
PASH

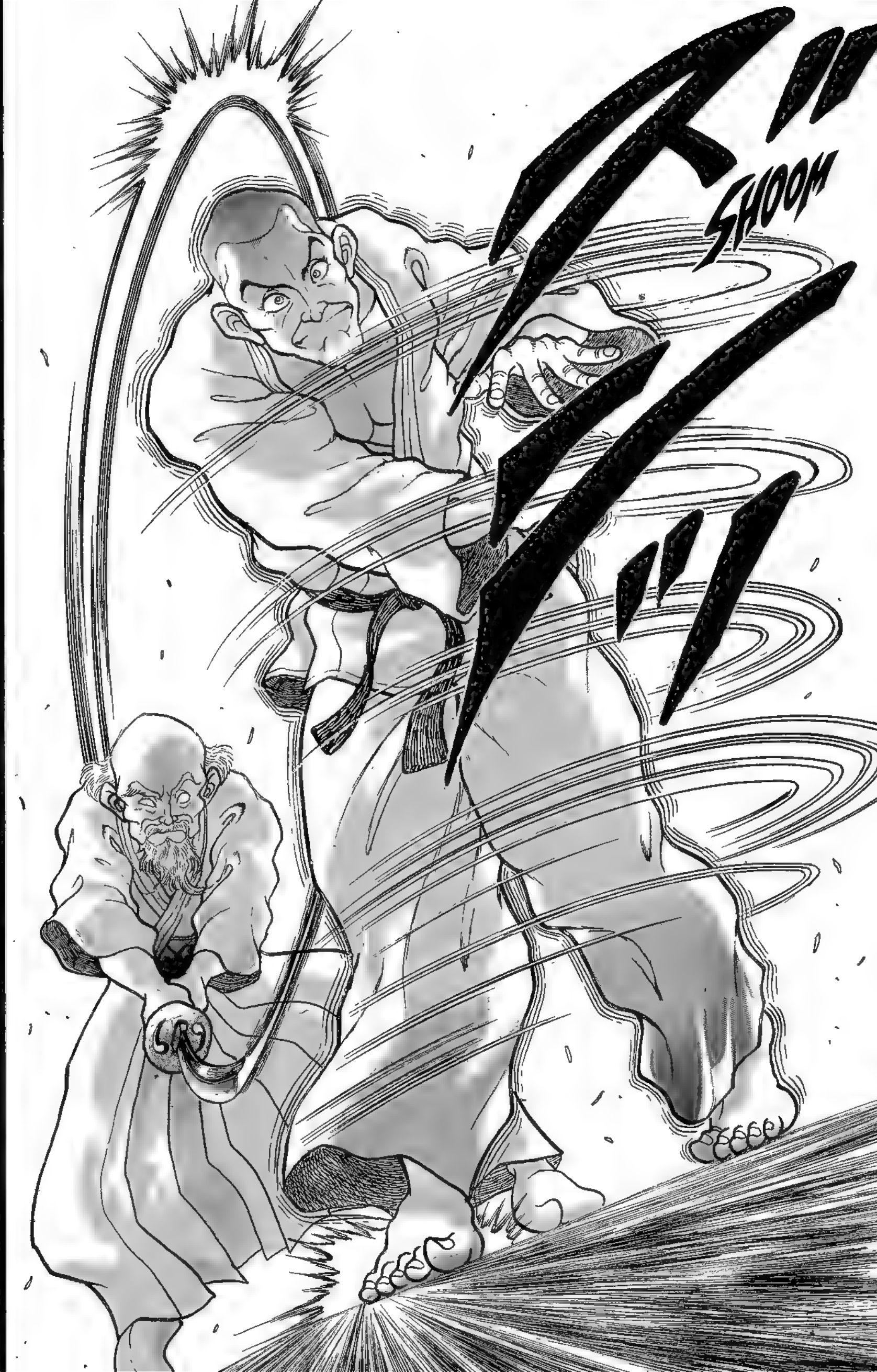


FAMF

NOW !!!






SHOOM

OH NO!!!

MASTER ...

...ALL ASPECTS OF THIS ART!

I HAVE MASTERED...

...I WILL ESTABLISH SHIBUKAWA-RYU JUJUTSU!

FROM THIS DAY FORWARD ...

#312 Don't Look Down On Me!!

AS IF TO LAND THE FINISHING BLOW...
WOOOOOO
...THE GOD OF MARTIAL ARTS DRAWS CLOSER!
SWCH
SWCH
SWCH

本部神心

!!!

HE'S BACK UP!

DON'T LOOK DOWN ON ME, KARATE MAN!!!

WHA ...?

FOR MY SEVENTY YEARS ON THIS PLANET, ALL I'VE EVER THOUGHT ABOUT IS KICKING PEOPLE'S ASSES!!!

A YOUNGSTER LIKE YOU...

...PALES IN COMPARISON TO MY EXPERIENCE !!!

CRUSH

THAT'S NOT ALL!

WHOA! WHAT A TREMENDOUS SWEEP!!!

HORYAH!

KAH

CHAI-
YAH!

HE SLAMMED HIM DOWN!

...AND THEN HE WEAPONIZED THE GROUND BY SENDING HIM INTO IT AT A DEADLY HIGH SPEED!

米

HE MADE HIM SPIN IN THE AIR WITH THE GREATEST OF EASE...

...FOR SHIBU-KAWA AND DOPPO!

OUT OF NOWHERE, THE CROWD ERUPTS IN CHANTS...

DOPPO!

DOPPO!

SHIIIBU-KAWA!

SHIIIBU-KAWA!

HUFF

HUFF

THIS IS SOME SERIOUS DAMAGE!

IT'S ALL HITTING ME...
ATTACKS WITH HOSTILITY OR BLOODLUST AMOUNT TO NOTHING, NO MATTER HOW FAST THEY MAY BE...

...BUT TO THINK HE ERASED HIS INTENT SO MAGNIFICENTLY...

TIME FOR A LITTLE BREAK.

青

三月

白虎

SHIIIBU-KAWA!

SHIIIBU-KAWA!

THIS IS UNPRECEDENTED !!!

DOPPO!

DOPPO!

SHIIIBU-KAWA!

SHIIIBU-KAWA!

DOPPO!

BOTH MEN ARE TAKING A BREAK IN THE MIDDLE OF THEIR FIGHT!!!

DOPPO!

DOPPO!

GLARE

GLARE

FROM BOTH, AT THE SAME TIME!

THERE'S MOVEMENT!

OOH!

THEY'RE EVEN ON DAMAGE! BOTH MEN FACE OFF YET AGAIN!!!

THE GOD OF MARTIAL ARTS' FIST IS IN THAT SPECIFIC FORM!

★ILLUSTRATION REFERENCE: RELAX (MAGAZINE HOUSE) APRIL ISSUE, PHOTO BY KIICHIRO YOSHIMOTO

#313 Doppo vs. Shibukawa Concludes!!

KARATE?!
OR JUJUTSU?!

Woooo

THE CLASH OF
STRONG VERSUS
SOFT RESUMES!

...HIS FIST IS IN THAT SPECIFIC FORM!!!

AND AS DOPPO OROCHI ASSUMES STANCE...

I DON'T HAVE ANY STRATEGY.

虎

白虎

I'LL LEAVE EVERYTHING UP TO MY BODY.

AT THIS POINT, CALCULATIONS AREN'T WORTH SHIT!

白虎

...YOU'VE BEEN WITH ME WITHOUT EVER WHINING.

FOR THE PAST FIFTY-FIVE YEARS TO THIS VERY MOMENT ON THIS VERY DAY...

I BELIEVE IN YOU.

...IF YOU DARE, DOPPO OROCHI!

GIVE IT A SHOT...

WHICH IS SUPERIOR— YOUR KARATE OR MY JUJUTSU?!

THE ANSWER IS VERY SIMPLE.

OOH! MASTER SHIBUKAWA IS THE FIRST TO MOVE!

KI'

THEIR SEIKUKEN— THEIR INNER SPACES— ARE ON THE VERGE OF TOUCHING!

SLOWLY BUT STEADILY!

LIKE A TURTLE, HE'S CLOSING THE DISTANCE!

朱

朱

朱

THEY'RE SO CLOSE THAT ANY ATTACK IS A GUARANTEED TAKEDOWN !!!

BOTH ARE CLEARLY IN SURE-KILL DISTANCE!!!

OOH! WHAT A TERRIFYING SIGHT!!!

WOOOO
WOOOO
I...
ガクシャ
ガクシャ
I CAN'T BELIEVE EITHER OF THEM.
DI...
DIREC-TOR!

DRIP

YOU'VE SHOWN GREAT RESTRAINT UP TO...

...THIS RANGE.

ORO...

...CHI...

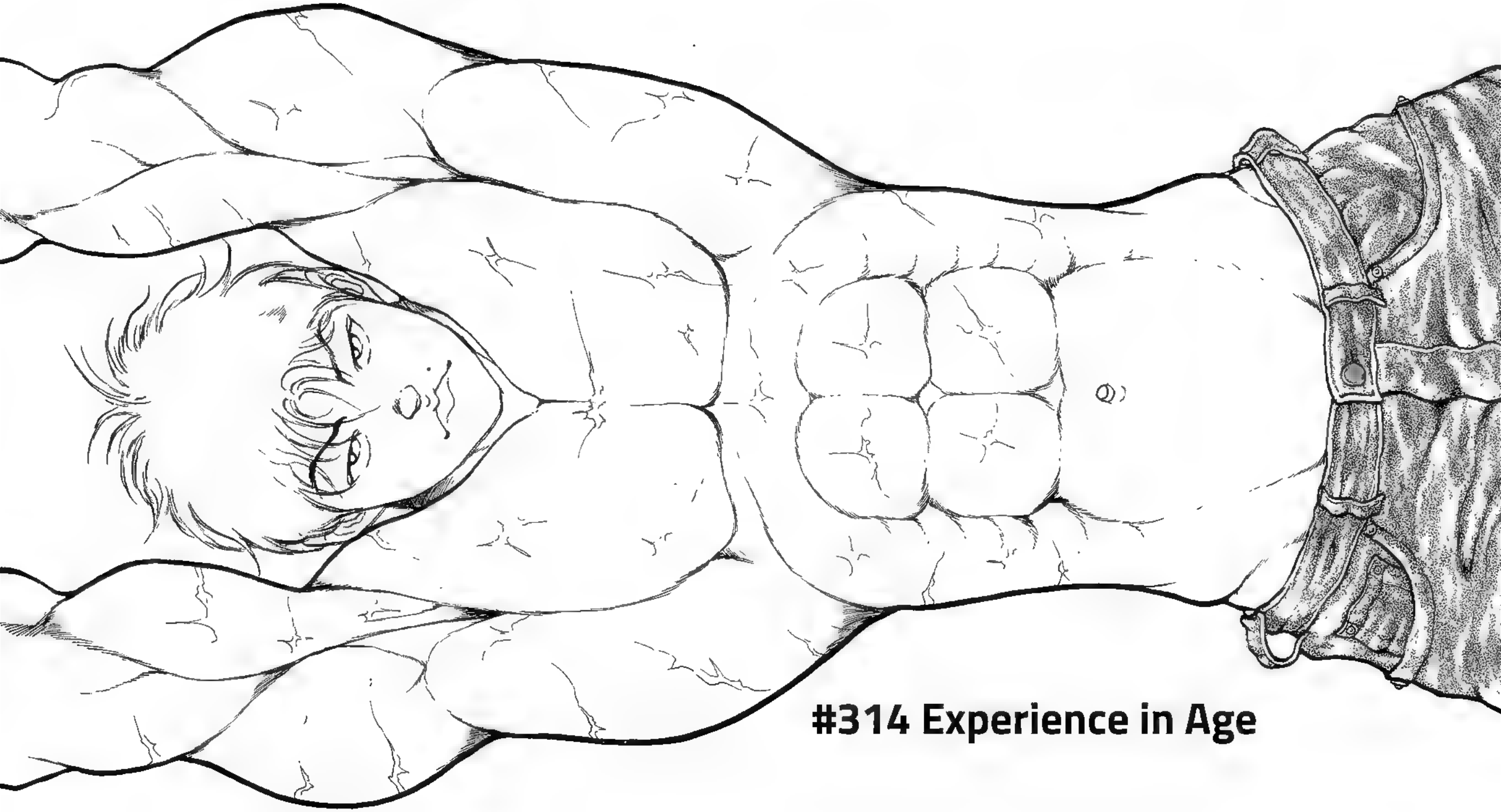
武
...DO...
青

...PPO!

SKRK

KRACOOM

...JUST A MILLIMETER ABOVE YOU.
THE MATCH IS OVER!
I GUESS LIVING LONGER PUT ME...



#314 Experience in Age

THE SHOWDOWN BETWEEN PERFECT MASTERS HAS COME TO AN END!!!

DOPPO OROCHI VS...

GOKI SHIBU-KAWA !!!

THE MATCH IS OVERRRRR!!!

竜

Woooo

...HAS EMERGED VICTORIOUS!!!

AT THE RIPE OLD AGE OF SEVENTY-FIVE! THE ELDER JUJUTSUKA, MASTER GOKI SHIBU-KAWA ...

...!!!

...!

IN THE FACE OF A FIGHT...

...I HAVE NEVER FELT FEAR BEFORE TODAY.

IN THE FACE OF KARATE... IN THE FACE OF A FOE...

I WAS TRULY TERRIFIED BY THE WARRIOR KNOWN AS DOPPO OROCHI.

...THE DAYS YOU AND I WERE BORN WERE FLIPPED...

IF...

...THEN I WOULD LIKELY BE THE ONE WHO WENT FACE FIRST INTO THE STANDS.

...DECIDED THE OUTCOME.

OUR TIME SPENT IN THE MARTIAL ARTS...

SOFT.

YOU'RE NOT GONNA FINISH ME OFF, OLD TIMER?

THIS IS A *SERIOUS* FIGHT.

YOU KNOW A BOUT BETWEEN MARTIAL ARTISTS IS ONLY SETTLED ONCE YOU TOTALLY FINISH OFF YOUR OPPONENT.

I DON'T GIVE A DAMN HOW THE REFEREE CALLED IT.

DON'T YOU, OLD TIMER?

STOP, DOPPO ...

ST...

DIREC-TORRR !!!

HAIII!
KASHOOM
!!!!
EEEK!

DON'T TAKE AWAY MY REASON FOR LIVING, NOW.

I'LL BE ACTIVE FOR *ANOTHER TWENTY YEARS.*

COME BACK AND FACE ME, DOPPO.

FOOL...

DRIP

DIRECTOR! ARE YOU SERIOUS?!

I ONLY STARTED IT BECAUSE THE NEIGHBORHOOD KIDS BEGGED ME TO.

SORRY, BUT I NEED SOME TIME ALONE.

AS I PROMISED, I'M CLOSING THE SCHOOL.

ISN'T *THAT* WHAT YOU TOLD US?!

DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU'D MAKE US *STRONGER* ?!

WHAT ABOUT *US*?!

I WANT TO BE STRONGER..

I WANT TO BE STRONGER.

...!

THIS WON'T DO.

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GET ANY STRONGER.

MISS!

EVEN SUPERMEN LOSE EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE.

NATSU ...

館長

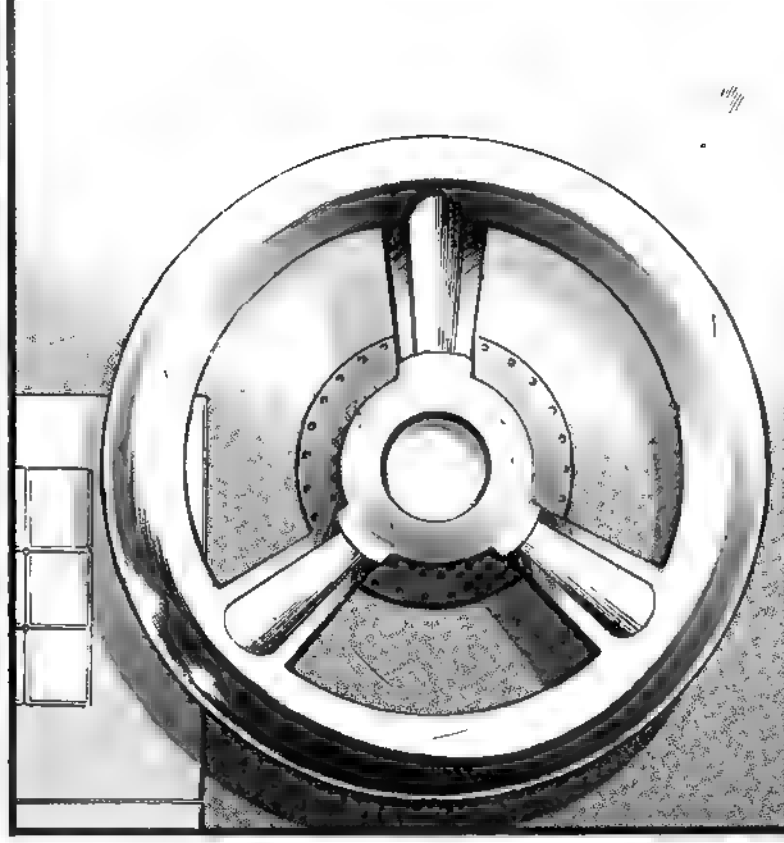
DOPPO DEAR ...

I ENJOYED THE SHOW, DOPPO DEAR.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

本部神心

I'LL MAKE YOU SOME SOBA AT HOME. ♡



CAN YOU HEAR ME, BOY?

UM, YES, MR. YUJIRO!

#315 Door!!

CAN YOU HEAR ME, BOY?!

YES, MR. YUJIRO!

UM...

OPEN THE DOOR...

IF YOU KNOW WHO I AM, THEN YOU SHOULD KNOW HOW INEFFECTIVE THIS DOOR WILL BE.

ISN'T THAT RIGHT, BOY...?

AAH... AH...

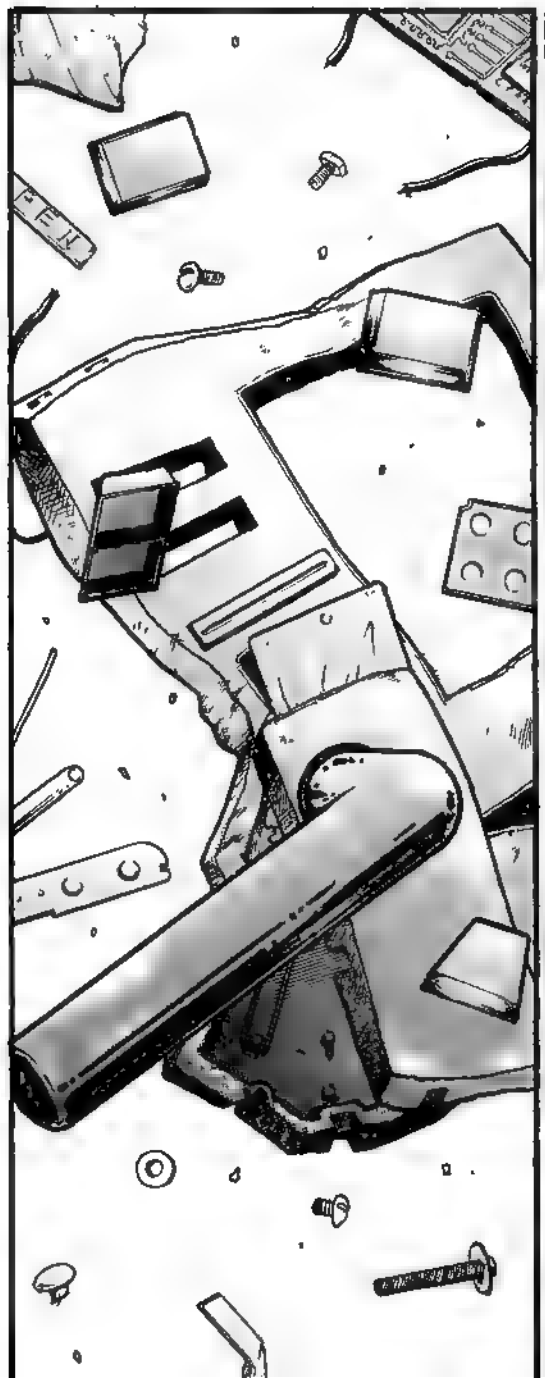
ISN'T THAT *RIGHT*...?

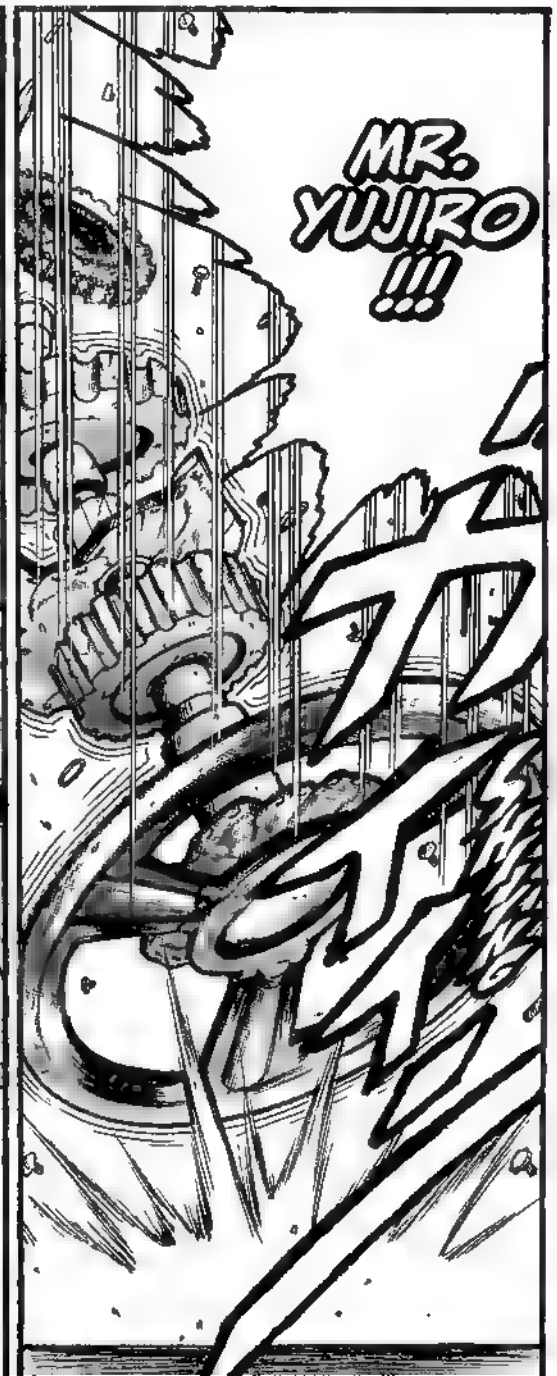
...!

OPEN

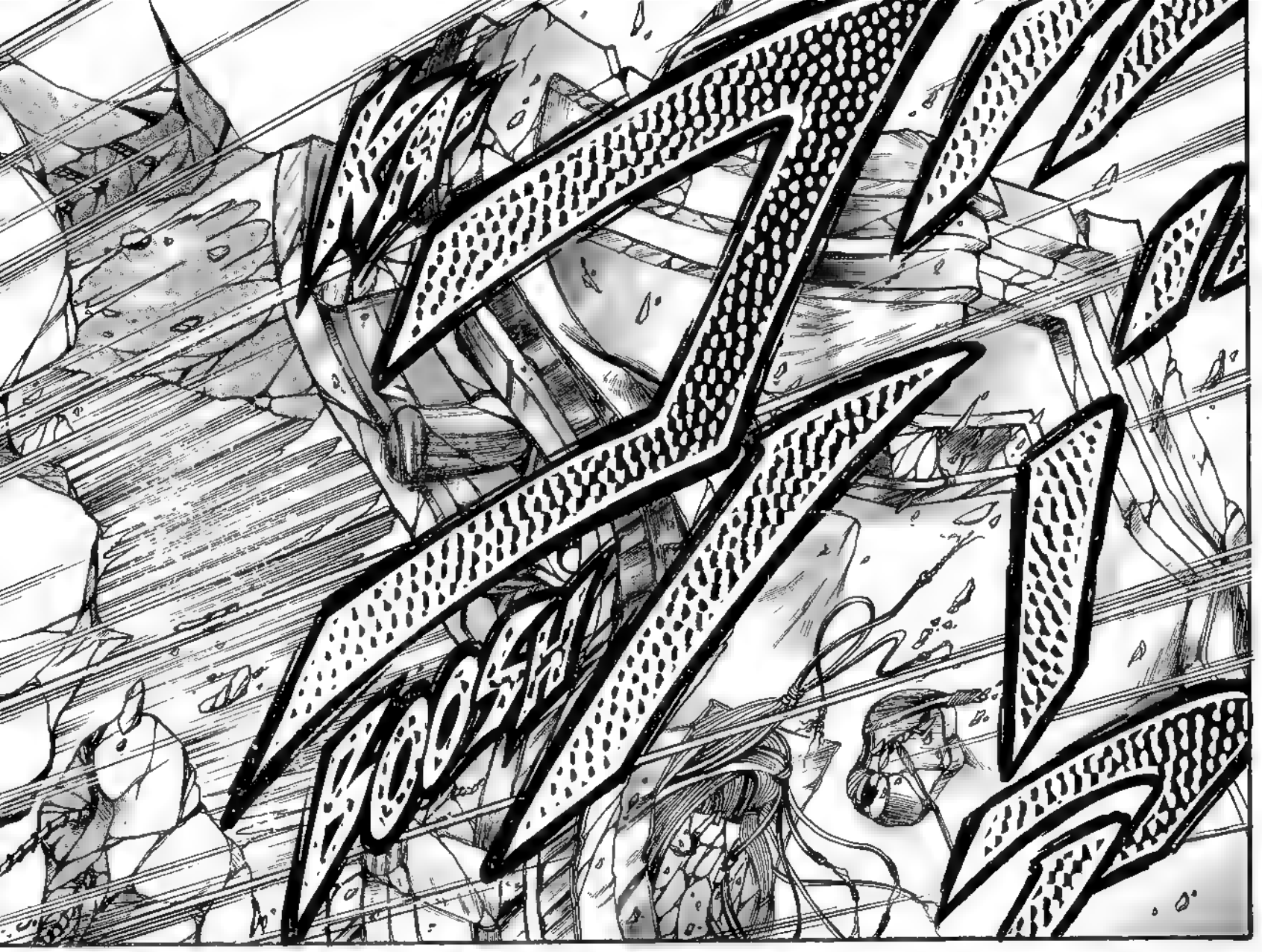
LOCK

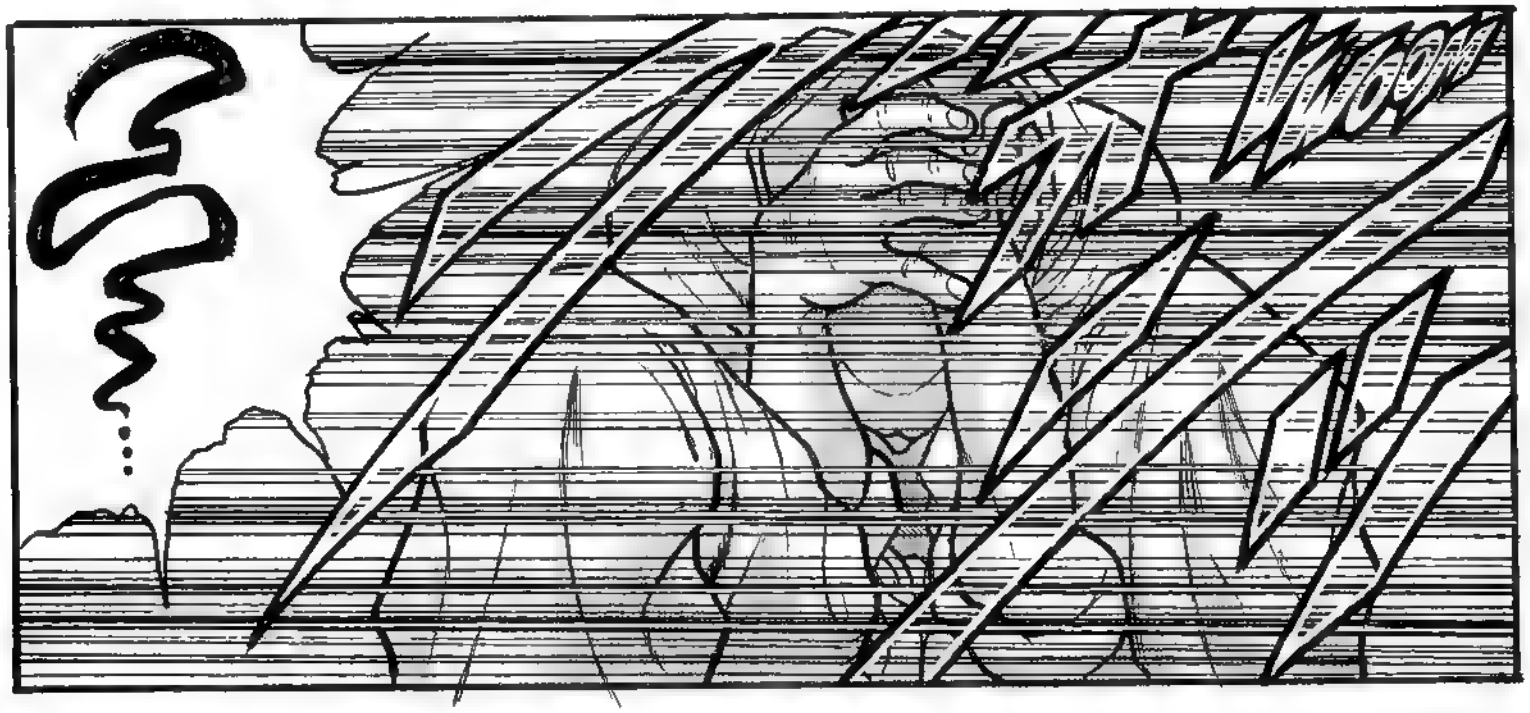
AIYEEEE!

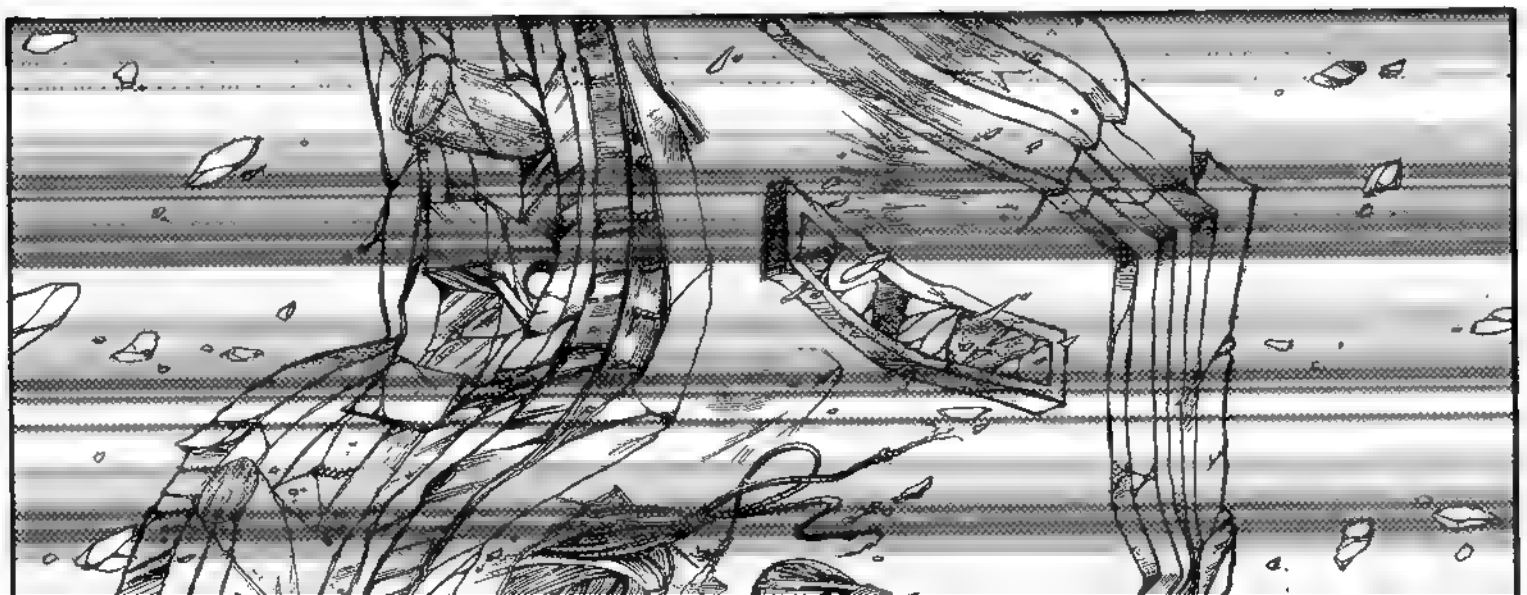



MR. YUJIRO !!!

I'LL OPEN IT RIGHT NOW, MR. YUJIRO!
I'LL OPEN IT!


FOOM


...mm
WOOM



Boooom

UMF
0.00/

AIYEE
!

DRIP
チョロ……

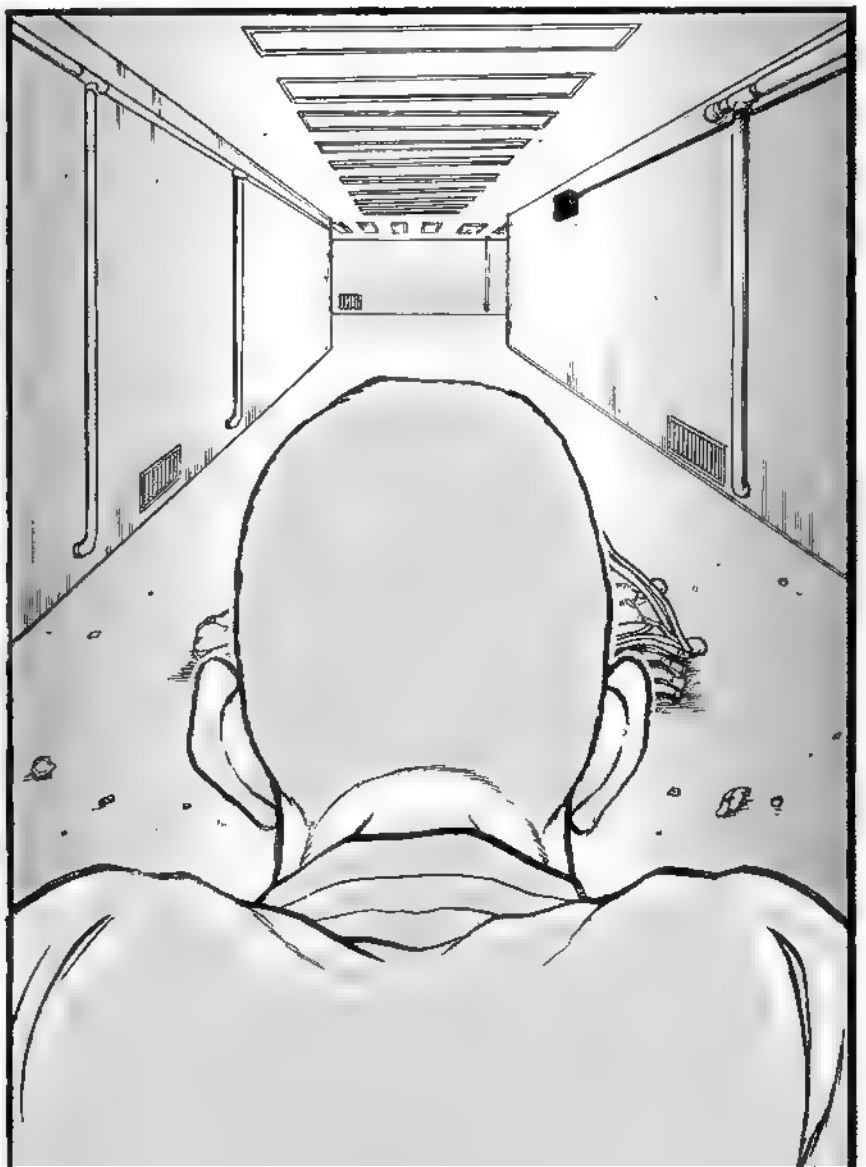
EEE!

HUH
...?

...

...!

HUFFF...

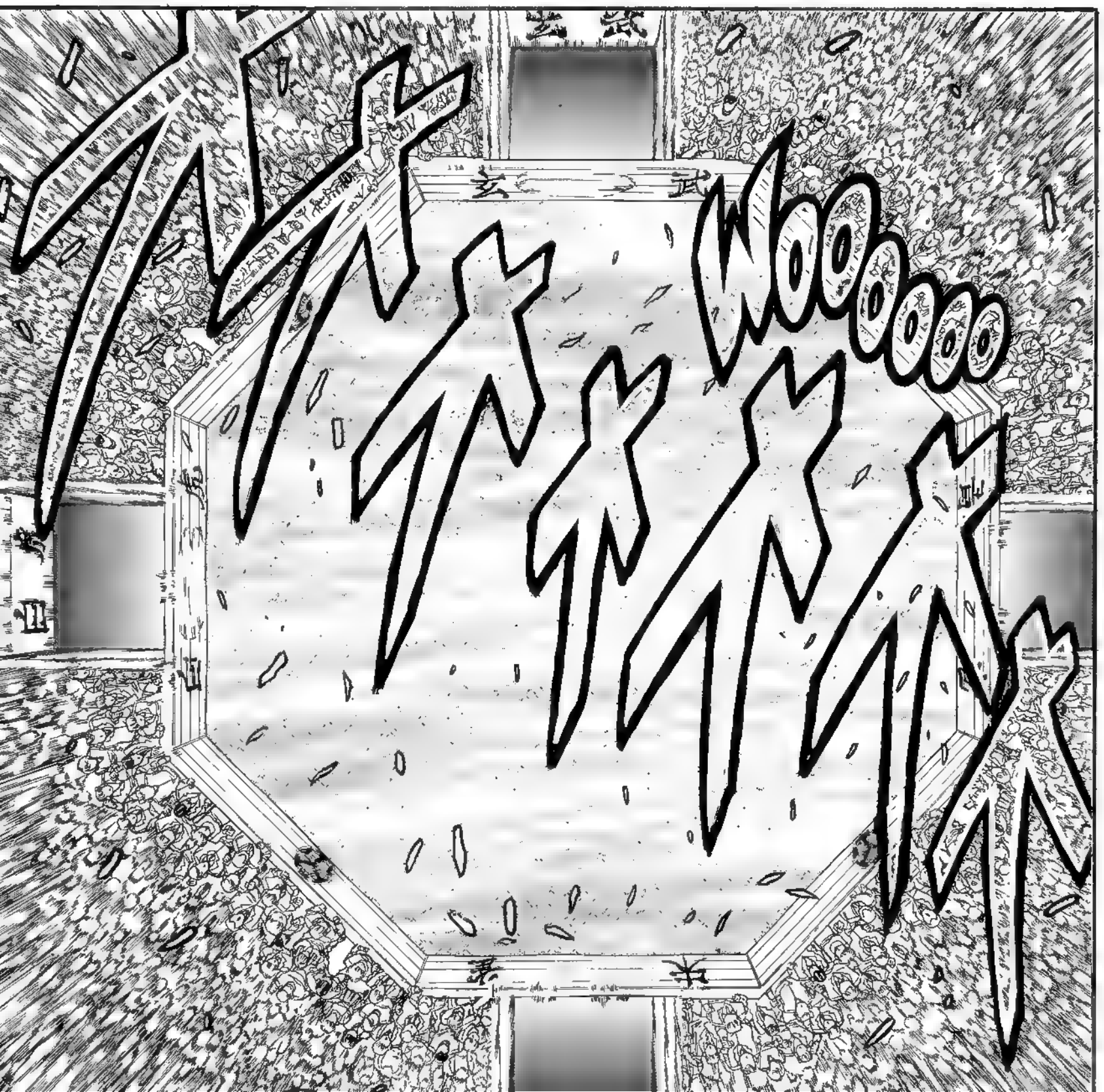


THE TOP FOUR!!!

HOOOOOO

FOUR PEOPLE HAVE RISEN TO THE TOP OF THIS EXTRAORDINARY CROP OF THIRTY-EIGHT COMPETITORS!

ONLY THREE MATCHES NOW REMAIN!



THE FIRST MATCH OF THE SEMIFINALS!

BAKI HANMA VS...

...KAIO RETSU!!!

THE SECOND MATCH OF THE SEMIFINALS!

JACK HAMMER VS...

...GOKI SHIBUKAWA !!!

THE WINNERS OF THOSE TWO MATCHES ...

...WILL MEET TO DECIDE THE CHAMPION IN THE FINALS!

DM DM DM DM DM DM DM DM

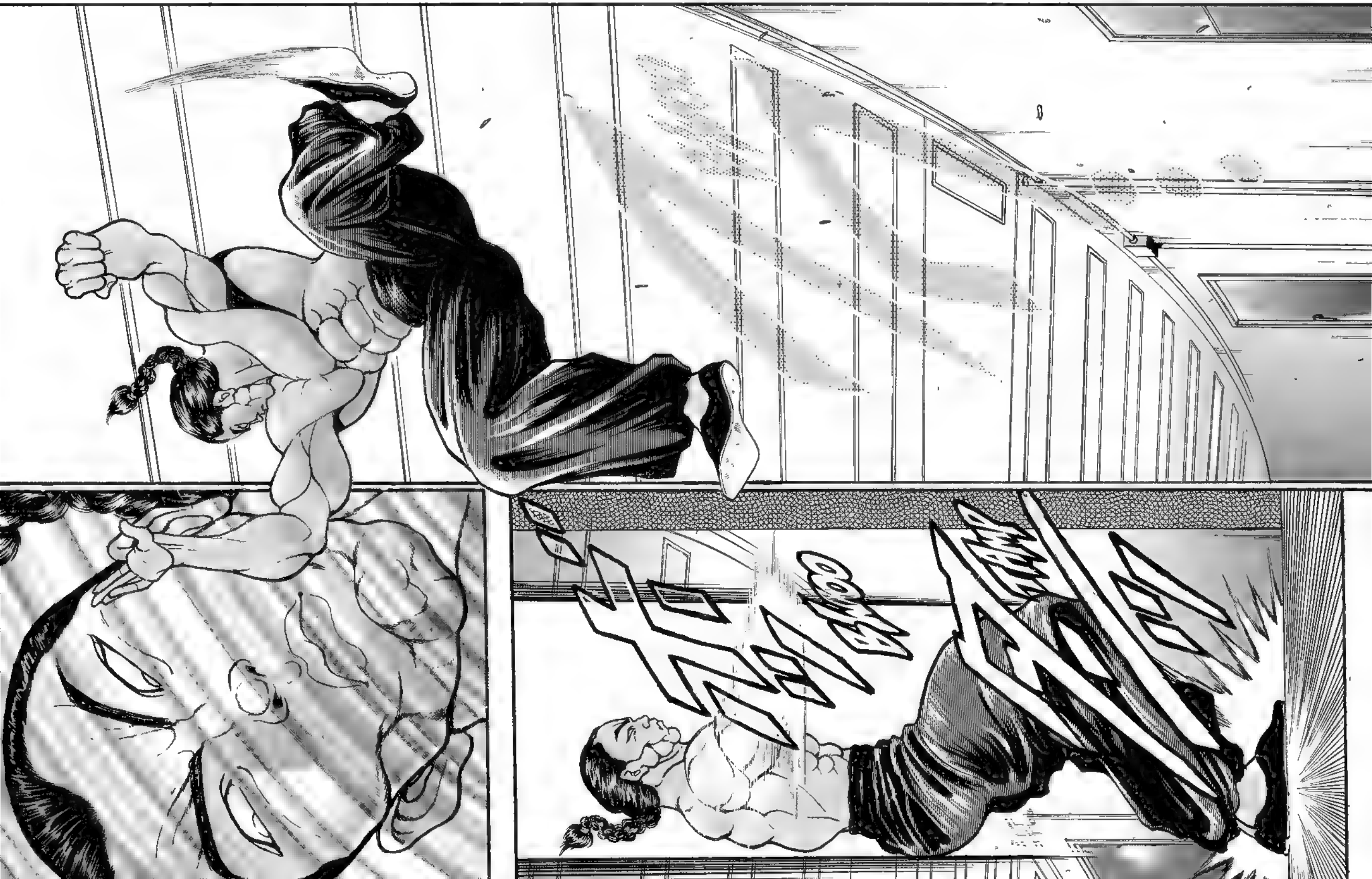
PASH

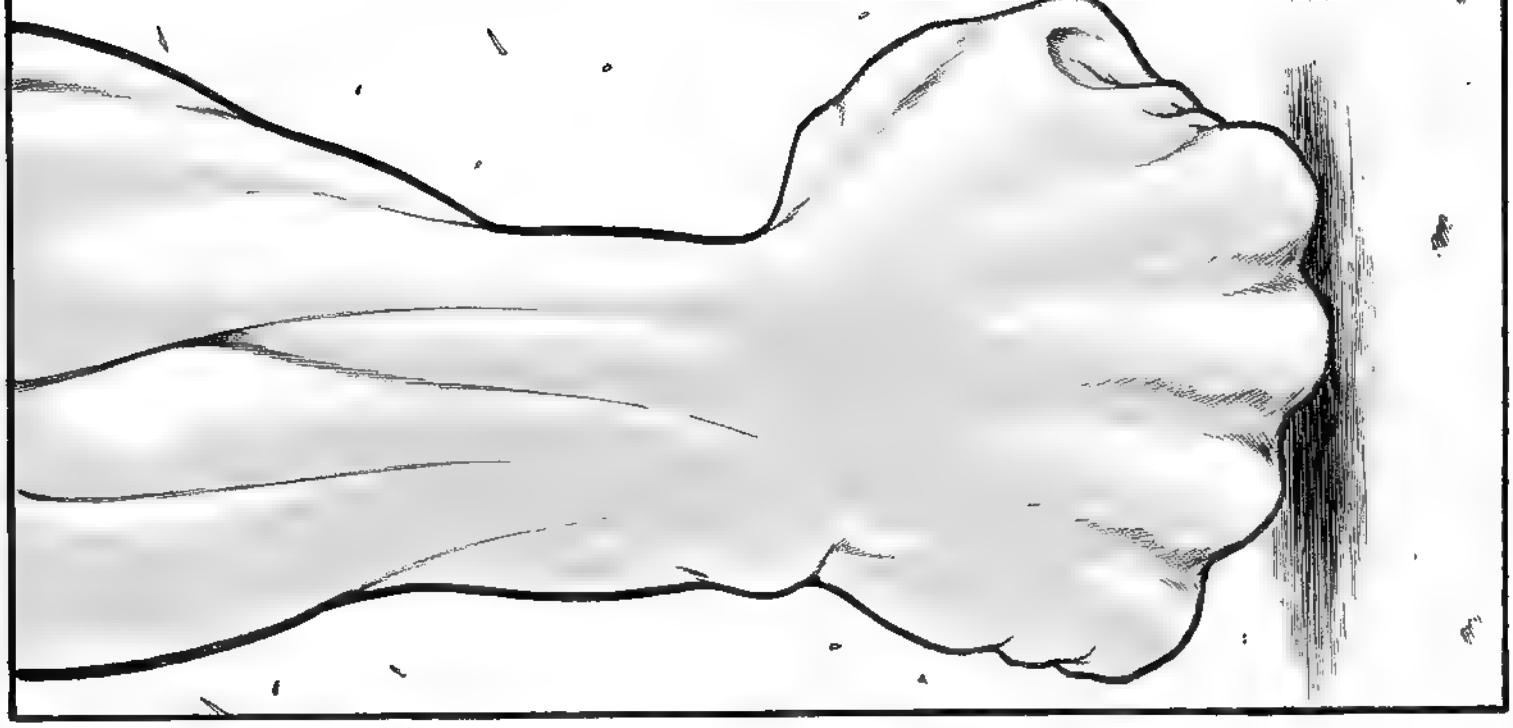
PAP

WHAT DID YOU SAY?!

BAKI IS GONE?!!!

#316 The Evil Demon Stirs





WHISH

WSH
WSH
WSH
WSH
WSH
WSH
WSH

龍

SLAP

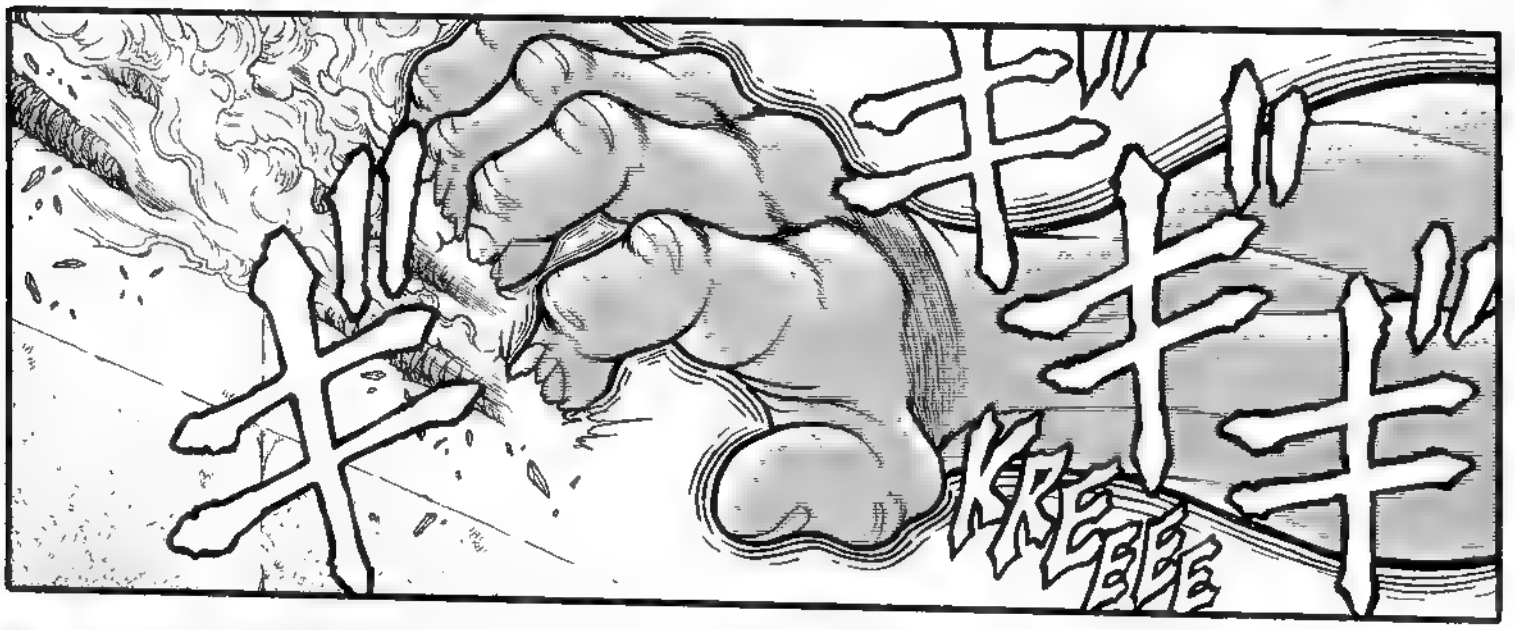
KREE

KREE

KREE

KREE

KRE-EEE


KRE-EEE

KRE-EEE

BAAM

MEN

MEN
WHERE IN THE HELL DID BAKI GO?!

THAT DUMBASS ...

...!!!

!

9"

DASH

THAT DUMBASS !!!

I CHECKED THE BOILER ROOM AND THE BATHROOM, BUT...

...!!!

...BAKI?!

WHAT ARE YOU THINKING...

THE VERY MAN WHO INHERITED THE NAME "KAIO," THE PINNACLE OF CHINESE KENPO?

YOU'RE *THAT* WORRIED?

WORRIED ABOUT FIGHTING A SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD KID?

MY MASTER, KAIO RYU, HAS TOLD ME ON MANY OCCASIONS...

...ABOUT AN INCREDIBLY EVIL DRAGON DWELLING IN RIBEN (JAPAN).

A DRAGON ALSO KNOWN AS *OGRE!* AND *THE STRONGEST BEING ON EARTH!!!*

I'VE *DREAMED* OF THE DAY I COULD *FIGHT* HIM!

YOUR *DREAM* CAME TRUE.

WELL, THAT'S *GREAT*, ISN'T IT?

!!!

...IS IN THE MIDDLE OF A MATCH TO WARM UP.

RIGHT NOW, MY SON, BAKI...

...HE'S HAVING A MATCH, YOU SAY?!!!

BEFORE HIS FIGHT WITH ME...

WITH WHOM?

W-WITH ME...?!

KAIO RETSU.

WITH YOU.

BUT WHO REALLY CARES?

IT'S NOT IMPORTANT.

SMACK

SLAM!

#317 Blood!!

HAH!!!

HOW PECULIAR.

4,000 YEARS OF CHINESE HISTORY AFRAID OF SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD BAKI.

...THAT I *FEAR* THAT BOY?!

ARE YOU IMPLYING...

INSOLENT CUR!!!

WOOF

SHF

FSHHH

FLAKE パラ…
FLAKE パラパラ…
KAIO RETSU.
YOUR WORRIES ARE JUSTIFIED.

SHOOM

...!!!

...SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN LIGHTLY!!!

THE HANMA BLOODLINE...

GRR...

IT'S TIME FOR THE FIRST MATCH OF THE SEMIFINALS!

YOU CAN'T FIND BAKI?!

...

...

HUFF

OOH! WELL?!

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

...KAIO RETSU!

THERE HE IS! FROM THE BLUE DRAGON CORNER...

KA

SHOOM

FROM THE WHITE TIGER CORNER!

HANMA...!

WHAT'S THIS?!!!

...

Drip

Drip

Drip

Drip

SORRY FOR THE WAIT.

BAKI IS COVERED IN BLOOD!!!

...

...

Baki the Grappler Vol. 20 (End)

THE GRAPPLER
AKI 20

BAKI
THE GRAPPLER

Baki the Grappler Vol. 20 by Keisuke Itagaki 2008.
Original Japanese edition published in 2008 by AKITASHOTEN Co., Ltd.
English translation rights arranged with AKITASHOTEN Co., Ltd.

English edition © 2026 by Kodama Tales Inc.

Translator: David Evelyn
Letterer: Rafael Zaiats
Cover / Logo Design: Tom “spAde” Bertrand (BlackStudio)
Publishing Advisor: Sullivan Rouaud

Editor: Michael SJ Lacerna
Copyeditor: Haize
Marketing: Seb Saebyul
Production: Jennie Flogstad
Production & Marketing: Asami Yano
Director of Operations: Kashu Kondo
CFO & Co-founder: Pierre Dubost
CEO & Co-founder: Kiyotaka Hirai

All rights reserved. No portion of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without written permission from the copyright holders. Any likeness of events, places, situations, and/or persons (living or deceased), is purely coincidental.

Kodama Tales Inc.
2200 Colorado Avenue,
Santa Monica, CA 90404, USA

contact@kodama-tales.com
www.kodama-tales.com

ISBN: 978-1-966523-31-4

First Printing: July 2026
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Printed in Japan
by Kyodo Printing Co., Ltd.